# JOHN BULL

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For meaning of this number see page iii. of cover.

No. 269059

*The world is a bundle of hay;*
*Mankind are the asses who pull;*
*Each tugs it a different way,*
*And the greatest of all is John Bull*

—BYRON.

**Edited by**
**HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.**

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# JOHN BULL.

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Vol. VI. No. 155. Saturday, May 22nd, 1909. One Penny.

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## THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

As a matter of course, the Government is getting all its "enabling resolutions," preparatory to the introduction of the Finance Bill, which will really embody the Budget, and every provision of which will be subject to amendment when the Bill is in Committee. Nervous traders and others, therefore, should not be alarmed at the present proposals. They will undergo very radical revision before they reach the Statute Book—*and before they pass the House of Lords.*

The present intention of the Peers is to reject the Finance Bill *en bloc*, and to insist upon the Government taking the opinion of the country.

Horace Avory is to be made a Judge—we *don't* think!

The Lord Chancellor will shortly introduce a Bill to give effect to the recommendations of the Committee on County Court procedure—but he will *not* adopt the suggestion that these courts should have Divorce jurisdiction. We shall.

Who is the member of the Cabinet who recently described the Budget as "Scrappy Bits"?

It will be remembered that one of the very first things promised by Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, when the present Government came into power, was a scheme for dealing with the Canals of the United Kingdom; and that in pursuance of this pledge a Royal Commission was appointed to investigate the whole subject. We understand that a first Report, dealing with the English section, will be issued in July, and that the Commissioners are unanimous that our old waterways are capable of profitable resuscitation. Our own view has always been that in this direction is to be found the best solution of the Unemployed problem.

The people who gibber about "Empire Day" have been surpassed by their transatlantic cousins, who proclaimed May 9th to be "Mothers' Day," and went about wearing white carnations as "symbols of filial love." We are reminded of the young moth-collector, who was given a shilling to buy a text-book and came back with a volume entitled "Advice to Young Mothers."

We must really start a school of manners for minor judges. One of them, named Bacon, is reported to have yelled: "Don't come into Court with a bare head, woman!" This is not a nice way of addressing any lady, even if she does happen to spring from the slums. How would he have liked it if she had retorted by addressing him as Pig?

According to the statement made to the creditors of the Marquis of Huntly by an official of the Official Receiver's Department, the assets of his lordship consist of "a pair of horses, a watch and chain, and a few pins." Happy man! *He* does not seem to have much reason to complain of the Budget, anyhow.

"Market Cleared by Charging Bulls" was the headline in one of the evening papers a few nights ago. There does not appear to be anything phenomenal in that, however. Before to-day we have seen the market cleared by hugging bears and frightened by gambolling guinea-pigs.

The attention of our tariff reform friends is hereby drawn to a horrible revelation. It is one of the chapters of our island's thrilling story that many of our swiftest (and slowest) steeds are eventually exported into Germany for the purpose of conversion into tasty sausage. Now news comes that at the present time ordinary horse sausage is being exported from Germany as "prime Salami." This is an example of fiscal reciprocity. Incidentally, it also shows that the theologians, declaring that the dead return not, don't know everything.

When the Lords throw out the Budget, will all the grocers, tobacconists, publicans and sinners refund all the sixpences they have been adding to our drinks and smokes? If not, why not? It will be remembered that they made the same unfair profit in 1885 when the Childers Budget was defeated.

At £1,000 per acre, the park of sixty acres which the Duke of Norfolk has presented to Sheffield is about the same price as that of the Holbein picture which the dealer who has bought it wants to sell it at to the nation—at a trifling profit of £10,000. Some people would prefer the picture to the park. They would tell you that it costs nothing to keep. These be hard times, as his Grace has obligingly revealed; and the hard times may explain why he has given away the park and sold the picture.

Mr. McKenna has "no information" of our wild, weird story of the soldiers of the Vaterlandt having sailed unobserved up the Humber and out again in two ships. Of course a great deal may happen while Mr. McKenna and other dreadnoughts are asleep, and perhaps the article we publish this week may do some good at this juncture. We trust the Navy Minister is aware that the proper definition of an island is not a piece of land entirely surrounded by Germans.

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Though Mr. William O'Brien has retired from the Parliamentary representation of Cork, we hope there is no special reason why he should "take up his residence permanently in Jerusalem," as stated by the *Catholic Herald*. Surely it is somewhat ironical that having ceased to be a representative of the people he should suddenly have made the discovery that he is one of the "chosen" race?

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Mr. Markham, M.P., says he is "not a politician, but only a plain temperance man." His place, therefore, is on the platform of the local mission halls, and not in the House of Commons. For a man to come there, admitting that he is not a politician, is like a quack doctor coming to the bedside of a sick man and prescribing for his complaint. For just now "John Bull" is very sick—and he requires the best expert advice. There are far too many missionaries in Parliament to-day—and far too few statesmen.

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By the way, has Mr. Asquith noticed the statement of the Attorney-General for Ireland at the Trade Protection Society's dinner? "The Government," he said, "are in a very critical position, both as regards the Budget and the position of the country." The learned gentleman seems to be observant.

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The French Government is said to have obliged refugees from the Sultan's harem to return to the Young Turks. It would be interesting to learn what principle of international law was invoked to justify extradition.

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When the Prime Minister told the House of Commons and the country that it was the intention of the Government to maintain the two-Power standard plus 10 per cent. as against "any two Powers wherever situated," we said, first, that Mr. Asquith had no intention of asking the country to submit to the financial sacrifices involving such a policy, and, next, that it was extremely doubtful whether it is within the power of this country to maintain any such standard. Since then the Government have abandoned all pretence of maintaining this standard, and as to whether the country could, if it would, maintain it, we may usefully quote the remarks of Lord Brassey in the new edition of the *Naval Annual* published a few days ago:—

> To keep our new construction up to the rate required for the maintenance of the two-Power standard, and at the same time to carry out our present naval policy of having our fleet in a state of immediate preparedness for war, imposes a burden on the resources of the United Kingdom which they are not able to bear. If our naval supremacy is to be maintained, the resources of the whole Empire must be drawn upon for the support of the Imperial Navy.

In the opinion of this very competent authority, the United Kingdom cannot maintain a Fleet superior to that of Germany and the United States combined. It requires no Solon to demonstrate the truth of this opinion. The United States has double our population, with resources infinitely superior to our own. Germany has nearly twenty millions more people than ourselves, with wealth accumulating at a much more rapid rate comparatively than with us. Given the determination of Americans and Germans to have powerful fleets, how can we hope to maintain a Fleet of superior strength?

But, then, say the dreamers, there is Greater Britain, and in the paragraph quoted above Lord Brassey seems to think we may look to the Colonies, as we still call them, for the financial aid required if we are to continue to have a Fleet of overwhelming strength. Here, again, is light assertion resting on nothing better than wishes. As soon as this country understands that not the Dominion, nor the Commonwealth, nor the South African States will consent to vote any considerable sums to meet the costs of the Imperial Fleet, the better for all of us. What the Dominion and the Commonwealth may do, and probably will do—certainly the Commonwealth—is to build fleets of their own, which by-and-bye may become powerful Navies. When these fleets are built they will be under the absolute control of the countries whose flags they fly. It may well be that in time of war they will be ranged alongside the British Fleet, but that will by no means necessarily follow. A war with Japan for supremacy in the Eastern Seas would undoubtedly find the Australian Fleet ranged alongside our own, and probably the Canadian Fleet would be there too, for it would be to the direct interest of Australia and Canada to baulk Japanese ambitions. But we cannot be sure that Colonial Fleets would be at our disposal in a war in which Colonial interests were not plainly involved. This has been made quite plain time and again by representative public men, both in the Dominion and the Commonwealth, and those who assume the contrary live in a fool's paradise.

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Every labourer is worthy of his hire, and we cannot see why a man who gives his time to the service of the nation as a member of Parliament should be an exception to this excellent principle. In most modern legislatures members are paid for their services. In the United States they receive in addition 29 cents a mile for travelling expenses and an allowance for stationery. In Germany, members of the Reichstag receive passes on all the railways during the session and eight days before and after, besides their salaries. In the British Parliament nobody gets paid except the Ministers, the ex-Ministers who make a declaration of poverty of sorts, and labour members who are maintained by Socialist and trade union organisations. The resolution passed in the House of Commons by a majority of 150 registers the opinion of the House that M.P.'s should not only be paid a salary for their work, but that the financial responsibility for the returning officer's expenses should fall on the Exchequer. However, provision is not to be made until "the introduction of a measure of general electoral reform passed before the dissolution of this Parliament." Since it is on the cards that a dissolution will come without any measure of that kind, the outlook for the M.P. who would prefer to be paid for his job like any other British workman is not rosy. But much may happen before the sound of the last trump.

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Mr. Austen Chamberlain and Mr. Bonar Law have the unhappy knack of getting hit with their fiscal boomerangs. Recently they made a fuss about the employment of imported granite in the contract given out for Rosyth by the wicked Liberal Government. Now it transpires that the late Government did the very thing for years. They used foreign granite for the Keyham Dockyard extension in 1896; they used it for the Dover Admiralty Harbour in 1897; they used it for the Gibraltar extension in 1898; they used it for the Chatham New Dock in 1900; they used it for the Malta Docks in the same year; and they used it for the Portsmouth extension dock in 1902. It is perhaps a little too soon to expect politics without party; but at least there seems no good reason why we should not have politics without humbug.

Recently there was a Methodist district meeting for Salisbury and Southampton, and this, if the *Methodist Leader* be correct, is what happened: "Proposed legislation: the re-smoking of candidates for the ministry, caused a somewhat excited discussion." We are not surprised. Gentlemen who desire to become Methodist ministers may fairly object to be classed as mere haddocks.

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A sentence passed on a man at the Middlesex Sessions is sheer judicial brutality; nothing more nor less. Granted that he was a professional beggar; granted, too, that he was convicted as an "incorrigible"—the technical description of a gentleman of that vocation. But he is 65 years of age, and the sentence was 12 months gaol—and 12 lashes to be inflicted on the bared back! It may or may not be that flogging for a certain class of offence is to be justified. But begging is certainly not one of them, and especially is it not one of them when the beggar is an old man. We are almost persuaded that judges who order the lash in such cases earn it for their own backs.

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Cannot the Chief Constable of Derby give his policemen a hint that the paltry offences on which they have recently cast their eagle eyes tend to bring ridicule on the force? The other day a tradesman was amusing his child by kicking a small indiarubber ball in the street, when up came a policeman, called upon him to desist, took his name and address, and issued a summons against him for riotous behaviour. The fact that the summons was dismissed may perhaps damp down the officer's fires of zeal. If not, one of these fine mornings a Derby tradesman may expect to see himself in the police-court charged with assembling to create a nuisance by stopping to speak to a friend.

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A new Northcliffe periodical, called the *Family Journal*, contains various suggestions for saving and making money. But if the advertisements are heeded, the profits of parsimony and labour will go to enrich various watch tricksters.

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It came out at the Eastbourne Town Council that the local band is supplied with second-hand trousers, whereupon the Mayor said he thought the matter should not have been mentioned in public. Is he afraid that they will be chaffed when they bend?

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A "largely-attended meeting" of the Hartlepools division of the North of England Branch of the British Medical Association has done us the honour to sit in judgment on the Open Letter we recently addressed to Dr. Morgan, of West Hartlepool. At this meeting five resolutions were passed. The first of these alone concerns us; the other four deal with matters of fact and matters of opinion which do not arise out of our criticism of Dr. Morgan. "This meeting," says the first resolution, "is of the opinion that the attack made on Dr. Morgan in a newspaper called JOHN BULL is unfair and founded on ignorance of the practice obtaining in London and other cities, and of the fact that Dr. Morgan was not informed that the case he was asked to attend was of a serious nature, and also that he had no opportunity of attending the inquest to rebut the statements made there." Our readers will recollect that Dr. Morgan, who is a Poor Law medical officer, was called by a police officer to attend a man who had fallen suddenly ill in the street; that he declined to attend because there was no guarantee that he would get his fees, though he was hardly a stone's throw away; that the man shortly afterwards died; that an inquest was held; and that the jury added to their verdict a rider, expressing disapproval of the conduct of the doctor.

It is therefore idle for the Hartlepools branch of the British Medical Association to say that our remarks on Dr. Morgan's action were unfair. Dr. Biggart, the secretary of the local branch of the British Medical Association, stated at the inquest that, despite the practice, he would himself have attended the patient in such a case; and from first to last our criticisms were directed against the inhumanity of Dr. Morgan's conduct, and we repeat that his action merits the strongest disapproval.

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When the Progressives of the L.C.C. were shoved into a back seat by the Moderates at the last election, the ratepayers were led to expect that the new Council would reduce the rates, keep down the debt, and end that "era of extravagance and waste" which had characterised the old one. But the Council has redeemed hardly a single pledge or fulfilled a single promise. On the top of the waste of half-a-million of money on a stud system of tramways which they were warned would be a failure, they have run a line of tram rails from Herne Hill to skirt Brockwell Park, and have laid the track so near to the park that the trams cannot run without grave danger to the public. The result is that the Board of Trade have been compelled to interfere, and unless the Council cuts off about ten feet of the park for a distance of a quarter of a mile in order to widen the roadway, the cars will not be run. Evidently it is as natural for the present L.C.C. to blunder as it is for ducks to waddle.

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There is at least one widow who has been forced to become sad and lonesome as a result of the increase on unearned income under the Budget. "I personally," she writes, in a contemporary, "shall have to get rid of my only servant, and as she is old and not too capable she will probably go on the rates." This shows what a widow will do for tuppence when hard put to it. She has an income of £200. The usual abatement brings down her taxable income to £40. She kept her only servant while paying £2 under the old rate. She discharges her now that she will have to pay £2 6s. 8d. at the 1s. 2d. rate. "Thrown on the Rates for Three-ha'pence a Week" would make a good headline for one of the nobler party papers. Will some enterprising sub-editor kindly rise to the occasion?

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It is a queer world, and some people do some queer things in it. Last Easter Sunday, John Marsden, a Leigh collier, was found drowned in the Irwell, at Salford. There was no doubt it was John, because one of his own daughters and a cousin identified his body. His relatives therefore spent money on black, and he was buried and adequately mourned. Now, having returned home after "looking for work," he will not believe he is dead, and goes about telling everybody that he isn't; but, on the point whether his daughter and his cousin believe him, the reporter is silent. If he is insured, and his relations have drawn the money, he will also have to convince the insurance company that his relatives will be entitled to have another draw if he continues his premiums and is drowned again. On the face of it, John's conduct seems wholly inconsiderate and unreasonable. "Never say die" is all very well as a heading for copy-books; but in these hard times, when it comes to the waste of a funeral, the principle can be carried too far.

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These Young Turks are really terrible Turks. According to the *Westminster Gazette*, their general has "forbidden anyone belonging to the army to be attached to, take part in, or *sympathise with*, any political party." If sympathies are to be placed under martial law, the rule of the British Socialist or Nonconformist would be almost preferable.

Here's a nice little point. One of our readers, an old sea-captain, who was for many years in the merchant service, is the son of a soldier in the 87th Royal Irish Fusiliers who served his full time and duly received his pension. Our correspondent was born in Mauritius, "on the strength," in 1839—the regiment returning to Glasgow in 1840. He is now, of course, an old man, and is applying for a Trinity House pension or for admission to one of the cottages under its control. He is informed, however, that, having been born abroad, he is not eligible, as one of the qualifications is that applicants must be natives of the United Kingdom. In other words, because at the time of his birth his mother happened to be abroad with his father, in the service of his country, he is an alien! And the joke of the thing is that the official of Trinity House who informs him of this fact is a Mr. Liesching!

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We have nothing but admiration for the aims of the Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, which apart from the necessarily perfunctory work of the police, almost stands alone between man in his brutality and dumb animals in their defencelessness. But now and again it happens, as now and again it must, that the inspectors of the Society allow their zeal to outrun their discretion. The result is that unconvincing cases are dragged into court, and the Society thereby suffers in its work and reputation. Such a case has occurred at Beverley, where an Alderman of the little minster town was summoned for cruelty to sheep. He had arranged with a farmer for the eatage of 70 grass acres for 200 sheep in January. For a time the sheep did well on the grass; then the frost came, destroying the nutrition in what was left of the herbage. Eventually two or three of the sheep died and the shepherd cut the throat of another one to put it out of its misery.

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On his attention being called to the impoverished condition of his stock, the defendant seems to have at once done what he could in the matter by sending someone with hay to look after them. Rightly, we think, on the evidence for the prosecution, the magistrates dismissed the case without calling upon the defence, on the ground that no guilty knowledge was proved to support a conviction for cruelty to animals. The defendant being a farmer, it does seem *à priori* unreasonable to suppose that one who had more or less to live out of his sheep would wilfully endeavour to kill them by starvation and neglect. The only possible conclusion is that the prosecution was commenced without adequate evidence to support it, and therefore without sufficient justification. In giving thought to the feelings of animals the Society should have a care for the reputations of men.

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What precisely is the extent of responsibility assumed by the Board of Trade for trade union rules issued under its ægis? The question is made pertinent by the case of the General Labourers' Union heard the other day. During the proceedings the rules as passed and registered by the Board of Trade were produced, and one of them was found to be so ungrammatical as to say exactly the opposite of what it meant: it said that a member must be ten weeks in arrears to receive funeral benefit! The magistrate likened these Rules to an Act of Parliament; and Mr. "Long John" O'Connor, M.P., who was engaged in the case, duly acknowledged the compliment. Should not the Board of Trade endorsement convey to the working-class that the Rules are safe and sound, A1 and copper-bottomed? If not, what is the use of the Board, in the matter, at all?

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*Truth* points out that the real name of "Ellis Baker," the author of "101 Points against Free Trade," is, or was, Eltzebacher. Made in Birmingham or Germany?

We cordially agree with the Committee who have inquired into the Police Weekly Holiday Bill that the strain on the London police is so severe that relief without delay is essential, and that the relief should take the form of one day off in seven. In no other city in Europe is the work put upon the police comparable to that of London. The processioning and demonstrating in our Imperial City is everlasting, the unrivalled management of street traffic keeps the brain and nerves of the officers engaged in it in constant tension, and there is an incessant war of highly specialised wits going on between the "force" and the "Napoleons" of the criminal classes. Now and then, of course, the force makes mistakes, like the rest of us. Like the rest of us, too, it probably often makes them through the sheer physical and mental strain put upon it. Tracked down, it would probably be found that errors of judgment, outbursts of temper, and vindictive and officious action in individual cases, are due to there being no break in the week's labour. One day off a week is not too much for them to ask or for London to concede; and whatever the cost, we should receive adequate return in an improved, because a more vigilant and a more devoted service. We heartily congratulate Mr. Remnant, M.P., on the way in which he has stuck to the cause of Robert's rest.

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It is not regarded as probable that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will consider the entertaining suggestion of Lord Lansdowne that a stamp duty should be put on leading articles in newspapers. We believe Lord Lansdowne over-estimates the power of the leading article. It is as nothing to the power of the news columns, as the modern newspaper editor has discovered. Time was when news was news. Now it is deftly interlarded with whatever opinion the paper desires to promulgate. In this way the ingenious editor gets a leading article into every headline and into almost every paragraph. Nowadays it is next to impossible for a man to blow out his brains or get run over, or remove into another street, without his action being used as an illustrative argument for tariff reform, or the abolition of the House of Lords, or the taxation of ground values. Of course, the papers, being purely commercial ventures, simply cater to the public demand. The average man likes his news to fit his views—and the editors see that he is duly satisfied.

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Here is an interesting illustration of the working of our education system:—"Mrs. Tarr, 12, Cabot Street, Newfoundland Road, Bristol, mother of eight children, the eldest a girl, 13 years 10 months, was summoned for keeping her child from school. It appears that her husband has been out of work nearly all the winter, and she was compelled to do what she could to provide food for her family. So she bought some fish and started selling it, not in her own neighbourhood, as she could not bear her neighbours to know she was hawking fish—and kept her daughter home one week to look after the other seven children. The parents were thereupon summoned and fined 3s. 6d. and costs, the child to be kept in an industrial school until she is 14, and the parents to pay 1s. a week to the school, where the child has to attend even on Saturday." That is the story, as told us by a Bristol reader—and we commend it to the attention of Mr. Runciman.

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We hope that loyal subjects will not think it necessary to imitate the foreign fashion of kissing among men because the King and Prince of Wales indulged in it at a railway station the other day.

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Remarkable echoes of the Poplar scandals were heard at the last meeting of the Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum managers. Some time ago the managers decided to take legal proceedings for the recovery of

the money of which the ratepayers were defrauded by the Calcutt gang, who have already served various terms of imprisonment. For this purpose the opinion of counsel was taken, the managers were advised that they had a good case, and £500 was set aside for the purposes of the prosecution. But at the last meeting Mr. R. H. Vigor, the Local Government Board nominee, moved that this resolution be rescinded. This brought up Father Higley, one of the managers, with a strong protest.

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But there are general reasons of mercy why civil proceedings should not be taken against Calcutt and the ex-managers who were convicted largely as a result of his revelations after he had himself been sentenced. They have been sent to gaol; their reputation, their characters, and their businesses have been ruined. To proceed against them further would have all the appearance of vindictiveness. But that is for the decision of the managers on their own responsibility. What has the Public Prosecutor to do in this galley? Why does he, or should he, interfere in the way it is publicly stated he has done? If Father Higley is within the four corners of the facts, things are coming to a pretty pass indeed. In our own case we had the Prosecutor raking up against us the unwilling evidence of uncomplaining witnesses from every hole and corner of the country. Here, in proceedings in which he has no concern at all, with which he has no more to do than the man in the moon, he is said to have gone to the solicitors of the managers to persuade them to induce their clients to drop purely civil proceedings. Father Higley describes this action as "a disgraceful piece of business." But it is more than that, because it looks as if this new office of Public Prosecutor were in the way of being a grave public danger and public menace. Where is his interference to stop? What he does in one case he is likely to do in another. Is he to be Public Prosecutor and, as a new brand of King's Proctor, intervener between plaintiff and defendant in civil issues as well? The fact that in this particular case his intervention is on the side of mercy makes no difference to the force of our protest.

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Surely the wild agitation of British drapers against Mrs. Asquith's Downing Street showroom will only serve to advertise the ingenious M. Poiret. Tariff reformers may be very potent, but they can scarcely hope to make smart ladies buy English clothes, any more than to make men of taste smoke British cigars.

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As we go to press, our attention has been directed to the fact that the article in our last issue entitled "Inside the German Fleet" is in substance the same as one which appeared in the *Pall Mall Gazette* of November 19th, 1906. We have invited the writer of the article to give us an explanation, and next week we shall refer further to the matter.

## WORRIED LOOKS.—XXVII.

THE TAXI DRIVER AND THE PETROL TAX.

# "John Bull's" Biscuits.

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*For ending an obituary announcement with the lines:*
*One Flower less on Earth*
*One* ANGLE *more in Heaven,*
AN ADVERTISER IN *THE LAUNCESTON WEEKLY NEWS*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

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*For advertising:* "WANTED, *Good General, one with off-license preferred,*"
AN ADVERTISER IN *THE PORTSMOUTH EVENING NEWS*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For advertising that he "can vouch that the whole property is* KNOWINGLY WELL BUILT, *with materials of very* LOW QUALITY"
MR. JOHN H. SHENTON, AUCTIONEER,
OF TIPTON,
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For offering "sunny pleasant front parlour* FURNISHED WITH QUIET PEOPLE,"
AN ADVERTISER IN *DALTON'S WEEKLY HOUSE AND APARTMENT ADVERTISER*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For making one of his characters say: "We're sixty hours' run from Riga, therefore if we start now we shall arrive there at five o'clock to-morrow afternoon,"*
A WRITER IN *YES OR NO*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

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*For stating that "Mr. H. Catt most ably officiated as referee (not being called upon to decide once throughout the game),"*
*THE NEW WORLD OF BILLIARDS*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

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*For stating that "with an eye to appeasing his* HUNGER, *he had taken . . . a tea-can, a table-knife with a greenish-black handle, and a pair of scissors,"*
*THE DAILY MIRROR*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

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*For stating that "there was much disappointment among the West Ham players, who evidently considered that the goal should not have been allowed, but the referee was* EXECRABLE,"
*THE FOOTBALL STAR*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For stating that "a large crowd cheered the ladies, who presented a very fine and* MARITAL *appearance,"*
*THE SUNDAY CHRONICLE*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For publishing the following: "Deceased, who was 76 years of age, was manager for* SEVENTY *years of the literary and scientific department of the Crystal Palace,"*
*THE GLASGOW EVENING TIMES*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

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*For stating (according to the "Evening News") that "England in comparison with other countries had spent* SCARCELY NOTHING *on Airships,"*
THE LORD MAYOR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For stating that Mr. and Mrs. Everard Lamb's honeymoon "will be spent* IN *Venice and* THE ITALIAN LAKES, THE LATTER *going away in a costume of biscuit-coloured cloth, with a Directoire coat of peacock green cloth and a large picture hat trimmed with pink roses and white lace,"*
*THE CARLISLE JOURNAL*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

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*For stating in the report on the Tonbridge railway accident (in which a Loco-inspector and fireman were killed) "no one was seriously injured,"*
*THE GLOBE*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

## SEX-RAYS: ARE YOU RED, YELLOW, OR BLUE?

By W.

To the making of new theories, to confound the wise, there is no end. Dr. Stevenson Hooker, a West End physician, author of "Colour in Mourning," etc., has been promulgating his rather novel ideas on "Sex-Rays in Relation to Marriage." Starting with the obvious truism that some people are unhappily married, he inflicts an additional pang by stating that "somewhere" a right, fit and proper mate existed for everybody; of that there is no possible doubt whatever. In the far-off dim days of antiquity we were all atoms, each atom having its own affinity, and no mistake. Not till atoms became vegetables—a long time ago—did this happy condition of things cease, but then there came a differentiation of the sexes. The doctor is silent as to the precise vegetable that caused the trouble: it may have been cauliflowers, sprouts, spinach, or curly kale. After the veg. came the meat—or, rather, "animals"—and then was ushered in the era of "choice." After the meat came the man, and he brought the soul with him. All this sounds like a complicated bill of fare, in which all the usual items are inextricably mixed, till we come to the sweets, *i.e.*, woman. Whether the "soul" was the "soul of a plant," *à la* Darwin, or not, he does not explain; but man's choice of a wife—there was apparently no contra account in those days—was obviously based on physical conditions.

Now, although very few people know it, both men and women give off certain coloured rays, and, once you have discovered your own very particular "hue-ray," all you have to do is to discover your affinity—a rather difficult task to inflict on a diffident young man, perhaps. If you fail to freeze on to the right tinge, it is a blue look-out for you, anyway. A man whose side was physically developed gave off red rays; this, of course, was true of soldiers before khaki became the fashion. If a man's spiritual side is dominant, you can look for yellow; and gentlemen whose mental side is uppermost give off blue rays. Most editors make a claim for "mentality," we know, but sub-editors declare it is not mental "side" that distinguishes all of them. Some of these blue rays unfortunately pass off into pencils, and the hopes of literary hacks are relentlessly withered thereby. If so, contributors must blame the blue water in the editorial brain-pan, and pray that he may be afflicted with yellow fever to bring out his spiritual gifts. The Doctor goes on to say: If a man could see these rays, he would take steps to alter things. That is, the folly of a green young laddie cuddling a scarlet young lassie would stop with a sickening thud. The want of the age, our author asserts, is not so much a New Theology as a New Marriage. Then we are told there is just one ray of comfort—tinge not stated: sometimes after marriage a man finds his right mate. This is small comfort if some other-coloured fellow possesses her; it does happen so sometimes, however. But perhaps it means that a crushed-strawberry man who has wedded a purple bride finds her turning indigo, or they get mixed up into a Prussian lake or mouse shade, or something.

To ladies intending to become widows, the doctor is positively cruel. Even if you never get paired off in your proper shades in this world, it can be asserted, regardless of contradiction, that in another sphere the proper apportionment is bound to occur. Therefore, ladies who hope for celestial reunion in another place would do well to practise spiritual hugging in the scratch-as-can style.

In the meantime, we know of several young men who are prepared to discuss the subject with any young ladies similarly disposed to test the doctor's theories. Any lady willing to submit to a colour test would do well to send photograph, particulars as to private income, etc. If any lady with a title in her own right, but whose shade is, unfortunately, not this season's, will reply to this urgent request, the difficulty may be got over by either Monkey Brand, Dolly Dyes, or Sapolio, presented by the editor, whose decision is absolutely final.

## MR. SLOAN, M.P., AND THE PROTESTAN T ALLIANCE.

Messrs. Engall and Crane, solicitors, of 44, Bedford Row, London, write, on behalf of Mr. T. H. Sloan, M.P., in reference to the "Open Letter" addressed to that gentleman in our issue of the 8th. They state that there is not the slightestt foundation for the suggestion that Mr. Sloan, in his capacity as Chairman of the Protestant Alliance, has in any way bribed Miss Moult, the young lady who recently "escaped" from a convent, to appear upon the Alliance's platform, and they enclose us a copy of a letter from Miss Moult to Mr. Sloan corroborating this disclaimer. We are making full inquiries into the matter, to which we will refer again next week.

## AN INQUISITION PERIL.

By Ben Tillett.

There appears to be no chance of budging the Budget; the Chancellor has clearly made up his mind to force the increased taxes upon the country. The bludgeoning effect of the Chancellor's statement is apparent in the weak opposition put up by even those supposedly looking after the rich man's prerogatives, while Labour Members simply grin and bear the arrows and slings of misfortune.

It is a lugubrious sight to see worthy men discussing, with an Exeter Hall vim, the sins of the workers for indulging in "luxuries."

Luxuries at fourpence a pot, forsooth! Where is the joke these persons are putting up in the name of equitable taxation?

Black twist and new raw whisky luxuries! Why this clowning and the talk about the dreadful results of drinking? One man in the hundred may approach excess in the use of beer, tobacco or spirits, but ninety men in the hundred use these things wisely and moderately; yet the "Stiggins" of Parliament must rant. There are not five per cent. of teetotalers in parliamentary numbers, but they boss the show. In this nonconformist word of politics and ethics, the repressive element crushes out the ordinary sense of liberties J. S. Mill, Burke, Hume, Carlyle fought for, and for which Charles James Fox battled with an eloquence making him a notable champion of the people's rights. Charles Bradlaugh also added his powerful advocacy to the cause of freedom, but now the workman must not indulge in pipe, or drink a glass of whisky, without being preached at and condemned. The decadence of Parliament as an institution representative of the people's will is lamentable; the parliamentarian has become more priest than politician, with the result of bungling both functions. The workers meekly stand the kicking and the extortion, at the dictation of an unscrupulous minority who are teetotalers. Surely the people who bear the burden of taxation are those exercising the right of choosing both food and drink, yet they pay more than a million a week to build naval and military power, with *Dreadnoughts* thrown in. I am sure there should be an organisation to combat the crew of "killjoys" who strain at the gnat of temperance and swallow the camel of poverty without a struggle. One man of the workers may be adversely affected by drinking, but ninety-nine men out of every hundred are adversely affected by poverty, and yet there is never a word from the temperance institutions against bad housing, bad wages, bad food, bad health, and the malignant death-rate of the poor.

But worse than the bleeding process is the habit of thought among the superior persons who fool at legislating or preach Nonconformity to take away some of the most sacred liberties of the people and interfere in domestic matters of recreation and refreshments. In time to come vegetarianism will be as rampant as Nonconformity is now, and then good-bye to steak and chop and the succulent herring, or the toothsome trotter.

The reaction is bound to come, and I trust the man who desires his pint and his pipe will as vigorously fight for his rights as the teetotal fanatics do to rob him of his manhood and discretion as to what he may drink. The House of Commons—and I blush to say this in the presence of the Editor—actually spends more money on drink per member attending the sessions than the workers earn to keep a family of five. Twenty-five shillings per family weekly is the full extent of the workers' earnings, yet the Members of the House spend nearly thirty shillings a week on alcoholic drinks per Member. A nice little group of preachers to talk about the curse of drink, to swank the people, while the process of filching is going on! It appears the British habit is, in all generations, to have some pernicious form of puritanism; the Inquisition of thumb-screws, torture-chambers, burning at the stake, has left a heritage of very bad manners, in the matter of crucifying your neighbour. The worker is snubbed, cuffed, and robbed, and then told to "be a good boy," and that his pastors and masters have only treated him scurvily in order to do him good. Even our Labour Members cannot see the grim clowning, accepting, without protest, the fleecing of their own class of not only a million a week, as now, but an additional six or seven millions must come out of them from their small incomes.

But for the division and faction among the religionists, the rest of us would be murdered and robbed in our beds. The teetotalers aid and abet every attempt to fleece the anti-teetotalers. Why not an organisation to fleece and teach the teetee's the horrors of iniquitous taxation?

The teetotalers have tried our patience with their exactions, their insolent cant, and their insincerity. England can only be sober on freedom.

## THE LORDS AND THE BUDGET.

BY A TORY M.P.

The opinion seems to be gaining ground that the Lords will not throw out the Budget. It is commonly assumed that they have not the right to amend, or even reject, a Money Bill, but it is well to remember that they have never admitted this contention of the Commons. The struggle between the two Houses began over a Supply Bill in 1678, and it has continued intermittently ever since. The last serious fight between the two Houses on this subject occurred in 1860 and 1861 on the question of the abolition of the duty on paper. In 1860 the Lords threw out the Paper Bill, which was not included in the Financial Bill, and they did so on the ground that public opinion was in favour of the retention of the Paper Duty. In the following year Mr. Gladstone combined the repeal of the Paper Duty with all the other taxing proposals in the Finance Bill, and the Lords accepted it on the ground that the country then seemed disposed to favour the repeal of the Paper Duty. But they have never admitted that they have not the right to amend or reject a Finance Bill.

In the Session of 1906 the Lords affirmed their right to amend the Irish Labourers' Bill involving charges on the rates and taxes, and altered it accordingly. The Commons, through the Speaker, protested and restored the deleted provisions, but although the Lords accepted, in the main, the restoration, they again struck out a provision limiting the cost of arbitration. Once more the Speaker protested that the amendment was an infringement of the privileges of the Commons because it would impose a charge on the rates. But having asserted their right on the more substantial amendments, the Commons waived it on the smaller matter. But small though it was, the fact remained that the Lords had asserted the competency of their House to amend financial legislation. They have never admitted the absolute control of the Commons over finance, and the Commons have no power to prevent them from interfering. There is assertion on the one side, repudiation on the other, and all the Commons can do is to appeal to the country to express its will.

Now I venture to affirm that in present circumstances it is the duty of the Lords to throw out the Budget. It may be said that they will not have the pluck to do it, and that their whole record for the last seventy years proves it. They would have thrown out the Reform Bill of 1832 if they had dared to do so; but they passed it. They would have thrown out the Free Trade Legislation of Peel in 1846 if they had dared to do so, but they passed it. They would have thrown out the Irish Church Bill of 1868 if they had dared to do so, but they passed it. They would have thrown out the Irish Land Legislation of the Gladstone Government of 1880-5 if they had dared to do so, but they passed it. In all these cases their courage stopped at maiming. It is, however, to be remembered that in every instance we have named the mind of the country was known. It was known that the Ministry of the day were supported by a decisive majority of the country, and the Lords have never in recent times claimed to stand between the country and its will when that will has been unequivocally expressed. Even in the case of the Paper Duties, which is supposed to be conclusive as against the claim of the Lords to amend the Budget, the ground upon which, in 1861, they retreated from the position taken up in 1860, was that in the interval the mind of the people had been expressed too clearly to be misinterpreted.

But now the position is entirely different. It is not necessary here to discuss the merits of the Budget. It may be all its admirers say of it, or it may deserve the epithets applied to it by Mr. Chaplin. But this much must be admitted, that it introduces into our financial legislation principles of great importance not hitherto accepted by the country, and that there is something in the shape of evidence in support of the opinion that if it becomes law in anything like its present form, it will seriously injure the trade of the country, and do gross injustice to various classes. And whilst these contentions have a good deal to support them, there is no evidence whatever to show that the mind of the country has been made up in favour of the proposals. On the contrary, there is every indication that the country does not like them.

In these circumstances the question arises whether it will not be the duty of the Lords to reject the Finance Bill. Suppose they reject it, and the Government appeal to the country with the result that they are returned to Parliament, by a smaller majority, maybe, but still by a decisive one, the Lords will not be placed in any worse position than if they had passed the Budget. They will have asked the decision of the final arbiter, *i.e.*, the country, upon a moot point, whether or not they have the right to amend or reject the Budget, and the country will have given its decision against them. That would be final in respect to that particular pretension, and the Lords would not again attempt to enforce it. But for all other purposes their powers would remain unimpaired. Suppose, on the other hand, that the appeal of the Government resulted in their defeat, the position of the House of Lords would be enormously strengthened. They would have vindicated their claim to revise the financial proposals of the Government when there was no decisive proof of support from the country, and I am not at all sure that the great majority of people in this country with anything to lose are not coming round to the conclusion that it is very necessary in these days of revolutionary proposals, ill thought out, to have a Second Chamber with the right to amend them, even though they touch finance.

But there is another reason, and a most grave one, why the Lords may well think that it is their duty to reject the Budget. For the rejection of the Budget is the only way by which the Government can be compelled to appeal to the country. Now whilst in ordinary times the right of the House of Lords to force a dissolution might well be questioned, it is surely different in times like these. We are faced by the growth of the naval power of a rival country, which is likely before long to equal if not surpass our own. It is impossible to exaggerate the gravity of that fact. After all, the safety of the country must be the first consideration of all sane and patriotic men, and the safety of the country can only be ensured by the unquestioned supremacy of our Navy. But who are there amongst us with intelligent and candid minds who can view without the utmost distrust the action of the Government in regard to the Navy? Only a few weeks ago the Prime Minister gave the House the most solemn assurance, in language that admitted of no misinterpretation, language deliberately chosen, that the Government intended to maintain the two-Power standard. Yet now Ministers think it no shame to admit that this standard is not to be maintained. Only two months ago Mr. McKenna told the House of Commons that orders for gun-mountings, guns, and armour for the two ships to be laid down in July would be placed "at once." Now he has to admit that the gun-mountings are not yet ordered, that tenders for the guns have not yet been invited, and that the armour will be ordered not "at once," but "in good time." Day after day we see the First Lord of the Admiralty floundering about trying to answer the searching questions of Members of the House, and only succeeding in demonstrating the truth of what his critics allege. The least of alarmists amongst us, the least partisan, the least inclined to be hypercritical, if only he be candid and informed, will hardly deny that there can be no safety for the country whilst the Admiralty remains under its present control. If that be the opinion of the Lords, as I doubt not it is, it is their duty to force an appeal to the country.

## GIVE OF YOUR BEST.

There are loyal hearts, there are spirits brave,
  There are souls that are pure and true!
Then give to the world the best you have
  And the best will come back to you.

Give love, and love to your life will flow,
  A strength in your utmost need;
Have faith, and a score of hearts will show
  Their faith in your word and deed.

Give truth, and your gifts will be paid in kind,
  And honour will honour meet;
And a smile that is sweet will surely find
  A smile that is just as sweet!

Give pity and sorrow to those who mourn
  You will gather in flowers again,
The scattered seeds from your thought outborne,
  Though the sowing seemed but vain.

For life is the mirror of king and slave,
  'Tis just what we are, and do.
Then give to the world the best you have
  And the best will come back to you.

M. C. S.

## OUR ADMIRALS.

### IV.—Vice-Admiral Sir A. B. Milne.

By Vedette.

When it was announced that the subject of this sketch had been selected to succeed Lord Charles Beresford in the command of the reconstituted Channel Fleet it was the first that most people had heard of him. "Um—eh, Milne; oh yes, capital fellow and a good sailor. Excellent choice in every way—eh—by-the-bye, who is he?" This was the luminous comment of a well-known clubman when the appointment was first announced, and it well reflects the general view. Those who know the Service, however, regard Sir Berkeley Milne as one of the Navy's "coming men." Accident and, be it added, the present dearth of really good leaders among our Vice-Admirals, has brought him to the front quicker than would otherwise have been the case, but those who know him best are confident that now he has got his great opportunity he will seize it "with both hands," as our American friends would put it. Certain it is that the efficiency of the Channel Fleet will assuredly not suffer in any way under his guidance.

#### A Royal Favourite.

Admiral Milne is one of that select band of sailors (Sir John Fisher and the Hon. Colin Keppel are others) who had the good fortune to win the goodwill and personal friendship of the King in the early stages of their careers, and to this fact he is disposed to attribute some of the success that he has attained at a comparatively early age, for he is now only fifty-four. Ten years ago he was selected to command His Majesty's—then, of course, Prince of Wales's—old yacht, *Osborne*. He held this appointment for two years, until promotion to the rank of captain in the ordinary course called for his retirement. The King was, however, very loth to part with him, and since loyalty to his friends is one of the King's strongest characteristics, he took the somewhat unusual step of approaching the then First Lord of the Admiralty, Lord George Hamilton, with the request that Captain Milne might be allowed to retain his position in the Royal yacht.

After due deliberation, as might have been expected, His Majesty got his desire granted, but the fact did not tend to increase Milne's popularity with his comrades in the Service, since naturally the command of a Royal yacht is one of the most coveted berths in the Navy, since it invariably leads to speedy promotion and distinction. The King shares with the Duke of Connaught a great dislike to having new faces about him, and Milne continued in command of the fleet of Royal yachts until he was selected to serve as second in command of the Atlantic Fleet under Admiral Sir W. H. May, to whose influence, by the way, his present appointment is very largely due.

#### A "Safe" Man.

Despite the Court influence that Milne has had the good or bad luck (according to the point of view) to have behind him, there is no doubt that he is a thoroughly good sailor, a trifle lacking in initiative possibly, and certainly not given to taking undue risks. He is, at any rate, a "safe" man, and a fleet under his command is not likely to get into unexpected difficulties even if, on the other hand, it fails to cover itself with glory. Milne does not believe in what sailors term the "forlorn hope" policy, and if he saw that he was absolutely out-numbered and had no chance of snatching a victory, he would prefer to beat a retreat and so "live to fight another day."

The foeman who is going to attack any fleet that has Milne in command is going to have a warm time of it. He has a knack of speedily finding out exactly what his own ships are capable of, and of utilising that knowledge to the fullest possible extent. He has also the gift of discovering the weak points of an enemy's fleet that is positively uncanny at times, and once these weak points are made plain to him he shows no mercy, and pounds away at them relentlessly until he has gained the day.

A good example of his tactics was supplied during the naval manœuvres a few years ago. His fleet was suddenly attacked by an opposing squadron of about equal strength. A short action took place about ten miles from land. To the surprise of his opponent, Milne suddenly steamed off, apparently having had quite enough of it. His antagonist was left wondering "what was in the wind" when Milne's fleet loomed up again heading straight for the foe. By describing a wide circle Milne had placed his opponent between his fleet and the shore. The result of this little manœuvre was to drive the "enemy" on to the coast, where he must either be sunk by the weight of metal Milne was pouring into him or be wrecked in the shallows, since every time he tried to break away to sea Milne's swift cruisers headed him off. It was a pretty little manœuvre, well thought out and smartly executed.

#### A Lengthy Land Record.

Milne possesses a lengthy record of active service though, curiously enough, the whole of this has been seen on land. As a lieutenant on the old sloop *Active* he formed part of the Naval Brigade that took part in the Zulu wars of 1878–79, and he acted as Naval Aide-de-Camp to the late Lord Chelmsford. He took rather more than his share in the hard fighting that took place, and he was one of that little column that made so plucky a dash to the relief of Rorke's Drift. The relief column was a day late in arriving at the Drift, but it pursued the natives into the bush with merciless doggedness and inflicted considerable loss upon them Even to-day it is something of a disappointment to Admiral Milne that he was not one of the heroic garrison that held the Drift so bravely. His other war services include the Egyptian war of 1882, under Admiral Hoskins, and various minor expeditions.

#### A Society Sailor.

Milne is one of that group of Admirals that strongly believes that because a man is a sailor there is no reason why he should be cut off entirely from the social world, and he is generally present, when his naval duties permit him, at all the great society events of the London season. At their cosy house in Down Street, Piccadilly, Admiral and Lady Milne give a series of little dinner parties every year that are greatly enjoyed by all who have the good fortune to attend them. At these parties he makes it a rule never to invite more than one naval man or more than two soldiers at a time. "Two of a kind," he once explained, "can usually be relied upon not to talk 'shop,' but get three men of either Service together and the conversation inevitably turns upon naval or military topics."

#### Mild but Firm.

When he is at sea Admiral Milne has a charming way with him that makes him extremely popular with all who are serving under him. When he has to find fault he does it in a sort of semi-apologetic manner, as much as to say, "Look here, you know, I am awfully sorry to trouble you, but really your gunnery might easily be improved without any records being broken." For all his mildness of manner, however, and his gentleness of speech, Milne is a man that will have his own way at any cost. Once he ordered a gun-boat to rejoin his fleet at full speed. The vessel was an old one, and the boilers were not strong as they had been, so the Commander decided that three-quarter speed was the utmost he dare risk.

Consequently there was some delay in his rejoining Milne's flag, and the Admiral demanded the reason, which was given him. "Afraid of the boilers bursting, were you?" replied Milne, "I should like you to know, sir, that those boilers are the property of His Majesty's Admiralty and, even if you had burst them, you would have been acting under my instructions, and would, therefore, have been acquitted from all blame. Next time I order full speed please let me have it, boilers or no boilers." It did not seem to occur to Milne that if the boilers had burst the Commander would probably have been quite out of the reach of either blame or praise.

Admiral Milne has been described by a very eminent sailor as the very best Second in Command it would be possible to have, so that in his new command, under the supervision of his old chief, Admiral Sir W. H. May, he may be expected to acquit himself with great credit. As has been said, however, he seems to lack that spice of daring and "devilry" that has gone to make the ideal naval leader in the past. He will keep his ships up to the highest pitch of efficiency, and will carry out such orders as he receives to the letter, and, what is possibly more important still, he will not quarrel with those serving under him. Left to himself, however, he would hesitate to run a risk that might possibly result in a brilliant victory, but which might, on the other hand, involve him in grave disaster. Milne is one of that "bookish" school of Admirals with which our fleet is so plentifully endowed at the moment, and, be it added, he is one of the best.

# 77 YEARS AGO

**Henry Stephen's invented an ink with the colour-matter in perfect solution & therefore fluid and pleasant to write with.**

**TO DAY with numberless improvements -the result of experience-**

# Stephens' Ink

**is by far the most fluid and reliable ink in the world.**

## BLIGHTERS,

By Jim Crow.

[*We desire it to be distinctly understood that we do not identify ourselves with Mr. Crow's views on this or any other question.*]

I once wrote a paper on Bounders, but I utterly failed to define the word satisfactorily, or to obtain a plausible explanation from experts—even at Oxford, where they breed them. The term bounder belongs to the last generation, and, if used at all, has now lost its original meaning. I believe Socialists and other bounders now take advantage of it to imply praise. As a term of good-natured contempt, it has now been superseded by the qualification, blighter.

### Brummagem Blighters.

Before consulting my dictionary, I will give you blighters* my notion of what is meant by a blighter. He is, according to my (liver and) lights, a person who is always running down everything and everybody. He believes in that Brummagen lunacy known as Tariff Reform, and he advocates his mumbo-jumbo by asseverating that, with the blessings of Free Trade, we are infinitely inferior to sausage-chewing Teutons, frog-guzzling French, Young Turks, and all other infidels or heretics. Black bread, sezee, is far more nutritious than home-laid loaves, laager than mum or spruce, horse than cow, donkey than any meat which does not bray on the front Opposition Bench. Foreigners are quicker at balloonacy, more terrible at sea, finer sweaters and tax-gatherers. Anyone who denies the superior enterprise of the alien is no better than a Little Englander or Mahound. Wagging flags with sycophantic sneers on a supposititious "Empire Day" is glory for the contemners of old John Bull, for the glorifiers of Canadian cads and Australian McConvicts. For these blighters, Little England —right little tight little England—(God bless her!) is anathema.

### Related to the Rotter.

Now before I take down Vol. I. of my dictionary, I will hazard a guess that a blighter is a person who casts a blight on everything he contemplates, just as the howling or whirling Jingoes and other dervishes do. Tut, tut! Dr. Johnson does not give the word blighter. It is probably a cant term of modern origin. However, he gives "BLIGHT: etymology unknown, probably from a Saxon word meaning a blast. Any cause of the failure of fruits; anything nipping or blasting. To BLIGHT: to hinder from fertility." A Blighter therefore is any person who nips, blasts, or hinders from fertility. Evidently a first cousin to the Rotter, who causes rot. Perhaps also to the Mother, who moths? Faugh!

### Mildew Manners.

Blighters are more numerous than one might imagine at the first blush. They abound especially in society (high, low, or suburban). You may know them at once by their airs of superiority. Germans sum them up very neatly as "high-nosed" (hochnäsig), and they look down their high noses so persistently that at last they see all things awry. They will mildew all conversation by their pedantic accuracy, correcting you about a date or a quotation without the least necessity. They will turn the cream of any jest quite sour by their prudery and lack of humour. They will nip all geniality by their flabby, drawling, wooden manners. Whenever I see them I always murmur the phrase in the Litany: "From all coldness and formality, good Lord deliver us." When hosts, they regard guests as bores; when guests, they treat their hosts like innkeepers—often with less civility. One icy handshake at the top of the stairs at a crush, and then never a word. Perhaps they are at their very worst when they sit down to meat. The process of digestion seems to dispel what few remnants of civility they sometimes retain. Nowadays most blighters are either silent and frosty at dinner, discouraging the brightest sallies, or else they do all the talking and allow no one else to put in a word. Even the flowing bowl only serves to emphasise their blighting influence.

### Poisonous Parties.

I have spoken of political blighters in other dissertations, but I may as well sum them up. In a sense, the Government are blighters, for they have withered up beautiful prospects of glorious legislation for the relief of the poor. Sir Edward Grey is certainly a blighter, for he has done his best—or rather his worst— to neutralise the King's most excellent policy, and he has inspired a hideous tangle in the Near East. Most of the Liberal rank and file are blighters, for they seek to destroy the pleasures and liberties of the masses. Still more blighting is the party system, for if we displaced our present tyrants, we should only make room for the savage and morose mummies who illustrated the Balfourian museum. As for the Socialist blighters, it would be a work of supererogation to point the finger of scorn.

### The Money Moth.

Perhaps one of the most blighting effects of the age is the undue influence of money. Of course, a good deal of humbug is talked about this, for money has always overruled virtue and wisdom and courage, at any rate, since fighting times, when a rich man could be compelled to disgorge. But it is true that, in these pudding days, money frets every garment of life. It commands all the new titles, controls the greater part of the Press, opens ducal doors, grinds the faces of the poor. If the Socialists were content to wage war against the bloated rich, I would join them to-morrow. But their measures would drive away any productive capital and add to the burdens of the workers.

### The Evil Eye.

Now let us be a little more liberal, and deal with blighters in the concrete. In most countries, except those where scepticism prevails, there is a general belief in the evil eye. To have the evil eye, you need not squint or possess any visible deformity. You are merely judged by results. In the highest society of Rome it is not infrequent for a man or woman to be utterly ostracised merely because a rumour of the evil eye has been circulated. Indeed, if you have a spite against anyone, it is quite easy to start such a rumour, and nothing will ever counteract it. Your unfortunate victim will be shunned like a leper and will have no clue to the cause of the persecution. I once knew an Italian Marquis who was supposed to have the evil eye. Oddly enough, he always brought me the best of luck at Monte Carlo. Whenever he stood behind my chair, I had amazing wins, and he was firmly persuaded that I could not lose. I suppose the evil eye is not maleficent to persons engaged in the evil practice of gambling. Pope Pius IX. was gifted in this way, and a strange conflict of piety and superstition was to be observed when he appeared among the people. When he gave the apostolic blessing, they would go down on their knees and bow their heads with every appearance of devotion. But all the while they would surreptitiously make the sign against the evil eye with their fingers and thumbs. All sorts of charms exist against the evil eye, coral hands and horns being the most popular amongst human beings. For the protection of horses, steel whirligigs are in high favour. A bit of garlic is thought to be very potent against vampires. I once carried some in my pocket as a prophylactic, but I damaged my popularity by sitting on it in a crowded resort.

I wish somebody would discover a really effective preservative against all the blighters of to-day.

* When I say "you blighters" I imply that the word can be used ironically to convey affection!

## THE PEER AND THE "BLIGHTER."

In a recent issue we quoted a correspondent who stated that, having habitually contributed to the hospital funds, he recently went to Charing Cross Hospital, and, after losing a lot of time, got nothing but abuse and a bottle of carbolic lotion—being hailed before an Almoner, "who sat in judgment on his career, both past and present." Subsequently we inserted a letter from the Secretary of the Hospital, giving his version of the matter, and we now have great pleasure in publishing the following epistle from the Right Hon. Charles Francis Needham, K.P., Earl of Kilmorey, Viscount Newry and Mourne, Representative Peer for Ireland, A.D.C. to the King, D.L., J.P.

*To the Editor of* JOHN BULL.

SIR,—On my return to London, I found the enclosed cutting from one of your recent numbers.

As a member of the Council of the Charing Cross Hospital, and, till quite lately, its chairman, I am delighted to find that our "Lady Almoner" (for whose appointment I am responsible) has spotted another of that army of "blighters" whose room is more appreciated than his (*sic*) company in our out-patient Department.

It would interest us to know what this "habitual contributor to hospital funds" was doing there.—Yours faithfully,

KILMOREY.

5, Aldford Street, W., May 13th, 1909.

A few more illustrations of this kind—and who shall say that the House of Lords is in danger of abolition?

NO SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS WITHOUT ENERGY

NO ENERGY WITHOUT STRONG NERVES

NO STRONG NERVES WITHOUT ANTINEURASTHIN

# A REMORSELESS CHAIN.

**If the secret of worldly success and welfare can be expressed in any single word, that word is "Nerves." Nerve Force—Mentality—Mental Energy—is the dominating force of the 20th century, and without efficiency of Nervous energy, success or happiness for any man or woman is out of the question.**

These facts are strikingly emphasized by the recent experiments made by nerve specialists with the new Nerve and Brain Food, Antineurasthin. The most remarkable of these is the record of five typical cases of Neurasthenia (including nervous debility, insomnia, hysteria, epilepsy, lost memory, general weakness, depression, dyspepsia, &c.) treated by Dr. Lion, Director of the Imperial Russian State Hospital at St. Petersburg. In view of the great interest everywhere manifested in Antineurasthin by the medical profession, it is exceedingly gratifying to be able to state that the result of this official trial is another triumphant testimony to the excellent curative property of Antineurasthin It is well that readers should have the vitally important facts—*i.e.*, the *known and proven facts*—of neurasthenia placed before them in the clearest possible manner.

*First.*—That Nervous Force (or Mentality) depends absolutely upon a well-nourished brain and nervous system.

*Second.*—That the brain and nervous system can only be nourished by an adequate supply of the proper food, *i.e.*, the organic substance Lecithin.

*Third.*—That "tonics" and medicines, whatever their name or nature, can *never* in any circumstances be of the least utility in restoring lost Nervous Energy.

*Fourth.*—That every one of these facts is endorsed by medical men and brain and nerve specialists throughout the world.

The habit of attempting to "whip up" the jaded nervous system or to stimulate the flagging and exhausted brain to forced activity by means of drugs, medicinal tonics, and alcoholic stimulants is one of the most useless and mischievous practices, calculated to work infinite harm to brain and nerves by the inevitable process of reaction.

Wherever Nervous Disorders exist there is a clear demand for Nerve and Brain Food—a demand that can only be met in one way, viz., by supplying the brain and nerves with the substance by which *alone* they can be nourished—in other words, this substance Lecithin.

For a generation medical men have laboured to produce a preparation containing this valuable organic substance, but, owing to its susceptibility to chemical action, every attempt has proved abortive and the medical world has been until now, in the unique position of knowing *what* to administer but without knowing *how* to administer it.

The problem is solved by ANTINEURASTHIN, the only preparation which presents an efficient percentage of active Lecithin unaffected by chemical action and in an easily assimilable form.

ANTINEURASTHIN, it is not too much to say, has opened an entirely new chapter in the history of nervous diseases. New, because it substitutes the common-sense method of cure by nutriment for the old and vicious system of poisoning the nerves with drugs and stimulants; and new, because it carries with it the certainty of a complete and permanent cure of all nerve troubles.

To put it briefly, Antineurasthin is as entirely certain to cure Neurasthenia (Nervous Diseases) as food is certain to satisfy a hungry man, and the reason is the same in both cases—the system is being supplied with what it needs. As a hungry man needs food, so do disordered or weak nerves (that is, hungry nerves) require food—the food, Lecithin.

This is not a new doctrine we preach, but an accepted medical truth: Nervous diseases would have been curable, ten, twenty years ago had the doctors been able to administer Lecithin efficiently. That they can do so now is due to the introduction of Antineurasthin, which, as all nerve specialists admit, has solved a difficult problem and has made the successful treatment of Neurasthenia as much a matter of scientific certainty as, say, the treatment of a cut finger or a sore throat.

This, then, is the truth—that every sufferer from any form of Neurasthenia can, and will, be cured with certainty and completeness by means of Antineurasthin.

## FREE TRIAL SUPPLY.

It is certain that there are many readers of this paper who at times feel the effect of brain fag, who suffer from headache, depression, lassitude, weakness, and lack of concentration power. To these, as well as to those who are confirmed neurasthenics, the best advice to be given is, "Accept the offer made to you here, in a free supply of Dr. Hartmann's wonderful nerve-food, and test its merits without delay."

All applications for free trial supplies of Antineurasthin and free copies of Dr. Kuhner's treatise should be addressed to the Antineurasthin Company, 41, Botolph House, Eastcheap, London, E.C. With each application two penny stamps should be enclosed to cover cost of postage.

*Antineurasthin can be purchased from all leading chemists and stores at 2s. 3d. and 4s. 6d. per box.*

# SWELLED HEAD IN SCIENCE.

By "Cob."

Of all men, men of science should possess the most humility; and true it is that some of the greatest are among the most humble-minded. But the average man of science is, none the less, as arrogant as a Persian cat, and as full of his own importance as a robin redbreast.

### The Limits of Knowledge.

It is a trite reflection that the sum of all human knowledge is but a drop in the bucket of the unknown, not to mention the unknowable. Certain astronomers tell us that this universe of ours is infinite as space itself. Others whose views have lately been adopted with startling results by Dr. Alfred Russell Wallace, hold that though our own private universe has its limits, there are probably countless millions of other universes situated in outer space about which we can hardly hope ever to know anything. But such ideas make the brain reel, and whichever view we feel inclined to adopt, the comparative bulk of this tiny earth makes us more than half ashamed of considering it at all. Nevertheless, it has been considered, and studied, and pondered over for centuries, and the result is that the modern scientist can tell us astonishingly little about it. Even so, that astonishingly little is a most astounding lot, and already it is quite impossible for any one man, even a man of science, to learn all that is already known about the diminutive planet we inhabit. We are informed, for instance, by some naturalist that there are at least one hundred thousand distinct species of beetles, known and classified, and we feel inclined to ask him whether he, or any one else, knows them all by sight. If any man does, can he possibly know anything else? Science has become too large for any one human brain, so specialists in beetles have been evolved. A man of science nowadays is a man who knows something about a small sub-division of the total knowledge of humanity. And the total knowledge of humanity, vast as it may seem when we think of that catalogue of beetles, is not much to boast about when we try to imagine those countless millions of worlds, each, remember, possibly rejoicing in an entirely new and original set of beetles. The conclusion of the whole matter is that, though science in the abstract is great, scientists are small in the world; and as the sum of human knowledge grows greater, the knowledge possessed by any particular scientist becomes comparatively less.

### Scientific Perspective.

Now a man who knows one hundred thousand beetles by sight has certainly acquired a great deal of information not commonly possessed by the ordinary mortal. On the other hand, he probably does not know, as his botanical confrere does, that a cremocarp is a bicarpellary schizocarp dehiscing into two mericarps attached to a central carpophore—a piece of information of which the ordinary mortal is also frequently innocent. The beetle knower may therefore regard himself and his knowledge in one of two ways. The first, which is rare, is that adopted by the man of science who, while striving to increase his knowledge of his own subject, will keep his eye upon the knowledge of others, and humbly acknowledge the limits of his own learning. The second, which is common, is adopted by that type of scientist who mentally compares his knowledge of one hundred thousand beetles with the ordinary householder's acquaintance with the common or kitchen cockroach. Needless to say, it is the man who regards himself in the second way, who develops scientific swelled head.

### Dangerous Generalisation.

Such a form of the disease is, however, comparatively harmless. It is really not until a man of science begins to fill up, with theory, the gaps in his facts that he becomes seriously objectionable. I have in another article mentioned a young person who, because he has heard two or three lectures on Chemistry and can possibly fill a soda water bottle with a mixture of hydrogen and oxygen, considers himself so full of knowledge that he feels impelled to give to the world his guidance on religious matters. Such a man is generally as full of gas as his own soda water bottle. But the genuine expert in chemistry, or some other department of science, is too often afflicted in this way. The manner in which a certain force of nature operates is perhaps known to him, and he jumps to the conclusion that he knows all about that force. Such men will inform you, for instance, that the laws of gravitation do things, forgetting that the so-called laws of gravitation can do nothing whatever, and that of the force which operates according to these laws they know absolutely nothing. Huxley himself protested in one place against the "tenacity of the wonderful fallacy that the laws of nature are agents, instead of being, as they really are, a mere record of experience"; and yet in another place, when it suited the purposes of his theological controversies, he did not disdain to adopt the fallacy.

### Theory and Fact.

Now theory is doubtless useful to science. All experiment is in a sense based on theory. But when the experiment fails the theory is abandoned, and when it succeeds the theory becomes fact. Science is concerned with facts alone; and theories are not science, nor are scientists entitled to base any argument thereon, until they cease to be theories. Yet scientists are inveterate theorists of the worst and wildest type. They will not confine theory within the legitimate limits sketched above; they are not even content when they have added a pound of theory to their ounce of fact. No, not until they have constructed tons of theory founded upon the original pound.

And, curiously enough, the theories are the cause of scientific swelled head of the objectionable type. As a rule a scientist thinks lightly of his knowledge, but plumes himself mightily upon his theories. Worthless as these are when they relate to the subject upon which he has some knowledge, what can one say of them when they relate to subjects upon which he has none? The man of beetles may easily be forgiven a little proper pride in his learning, provided he cheerfully recognises your superior knowledge of music or the price of pork. His ideas about unknown points in beetle culture will not irritate you, ridiculous as they probably are. But almost certainly will he utilise his intimacy with beetles to give weight to his views on "ships and seas and sealing wax," upon which he has as much right to speak, or as little, as you have yourself. The tiny chip of learning which a scientist acquires represents the sum total of his intellectual value. He merely discounts the real worth of the chip by his endeavours to make you believe it is a log. If he would be content with a modest self-appreciation on the score of such knowledge as he possesses, no one would have to avoid him. But, a few facts mastered, and theories sprout. Every Huxley has his Bathybius, and nothing forms such an excellent nidus for the germs of swelled head as a very little genuine information.

### The "Popular" Scientist.

When all this can be said of the genuine scientist—that is the man who actually knows one hundred thousand beetles by sight—what of the popular scientist? I do not mean the man of real knowledge who attempts to popularise his own subject, but the cheap-jack scientist who will write you a weekly article on any scientific subject under the sun, or beyond it. The being who will expand into a guinea's worth of sententious piffle every little crumb of information he can pick up. He can criticise, with equal facility and ignorance, the new Astronomy or the old Theology. He can explain the visions of Jeanne d'Arc, or your own sensations when you quit your cold bath. He can use such words as "nevrons" and "molecules," frequently without giving himself away. He professes to know about everything from potato culture to the soul of man, and his particular and special delight is to make a parson angry.

What can be said of this parasite of science?

Perhaps, after all, the least said the better. In any case, it is hardly fair to discuss his disease under the heading of "Scientific Swelled Head."

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We have received postal orders for 5s. and for 2s. on behalf of the person mentioned in Human Document No. XLIII. The money has been duly forwarded to her, and she returns her grateful thanks.

*Printers' Pie* (London, Eyre and Spottiswoode, 1s. net). This annual possesses the merit of being not only a monster shillingsworth, but also the means of very materially assisting a most deserving charity. The current issue surpasses anything which has preceded it, and amongst its contributors, both literary and pictorial, are to be found names which are almost household words. The success of the publication has been in the past very great, and it is safe to say the latest production will still further increase it.

# How Is It Done?

**The subject of Success in Business is an absorbing subject. Watch a number of business men talking seriously together—in nine cases out of ten you will find they are telling each other stories of Success.**

**One of the greatest of Englishmen said that the English mind does not ratiocinate, that is that it does not follow up its reasoning to a sensible end. It will pay YOU when studying the story of Business Success to ask "How is it done?"**

We see palatial Business Premises rising up in every quarter of London. We hear of the phenomenal Business Success of a Lipton, of a Lever, of a Whiteley; we know that the magnificent concerns which are represented by these names, and by others of the same weight of stability and magnitude, have been built up in less than one lifetime. We have seen their places grow from the shop—a small and humble shop in some cases—into the Palaces of Trade, employing hundreds of men, that they are to-day; we know that the men who set out to build up these businesses are, in most cases, still alive, and are reaping the solid and enduring results of their sagacity and their labour.

Since we all know that there are not hundreds but thousands of men, who started life with exactly the same advantages and disadvantages, and who certainly worked as hard as did these Pioneers of Business Success, we must conclude that Success came more as a result of their sagacity than of their labour. Other men, equally honest, equally industrious, equally anxious, remained with the ruck that is ever painfully struggling just to keep going.

These men came to the top, and have established themselves firmly and solidly there.

It is worth any Business man's while—but especially is it worth the while of any young Business man—to ask, "How is It Done?"

## What is Business Sagacity?

Business Success in every one of these cases has been won by Business knowledge. And Business knowledge—all Business knowledge, classified and systematised and ready for reference without the loss of a moment's time—is embodied in the "Business Encyclopædia." We have hundreds of letters from Business men, testifying to the profit they have derived from this unique work; and amongst the writers of these letters are to be found the names of all the men who stand for success in Business to-day.

Business Sagacity rather than mere industry, punctuality, and sobriety has enabled these men to achieve Business success. Their Business sagacity enabled them to "nose" its excellence—to see its enormous time and labour-saving possibilities—to realise that here was no luxury for Business offices pretending to be well fitted up, but an actual, practical working tool without which the man who disdained it must inevitably come out of the fierce Business struggle for pre-eminence worsted and maimed and defeated—disastrously defeated, if he persisted in ignoring what his wiser and more successful Business rivals persisted in using and acting on—more and more confidently every day.

## The Standard of Business Efficiency is Higher.

The "Business Encyclopædia" has been brought up to date again and again. The latest revised edition is as near perfection as such a book, embodying the combined wisdom of so many experts on Business and commercial matters, can possibly be. There is no man, whether clerk, cashier, commercial traveller, agent, manager, shop keeper, tradesman, merchant, manufacturer, solicitor, stock-broker, financier, or capitalist, who cannot find here the information *he* needs in *his* line to make *his* life a Business success. It contains concise summaries embodying whole text-books, and without any wordy "padding," on all practical Business matters, such as Book-keeping, Auditing, Debt-collecting, County Court Business, Insurance, Assurance, Taxes, Rates, Property owning and managing, Advertising, Business by post, Branch establishment, Book-keeping, Office Organisation, Factory Acts, Cheques, Banking, Investing, the Money Market, Consols, Annuities, Contracts, etc., etc.

But in addition to these and thousands of other matters (there are over 12,000 references on the Index), it is perhaps in its power to stimulate new Business ideas that the Business Encyclopædia is most valuable to the man who aims at real solid Success in Business.

In Business, a new idea is often the first wave of that tide which, "taken at the flood, leads on to fortune." Constant use of the "Business Encyclopædia" stimulates Business ideas. Constant study of the Business knowledge here presented in authoritative, clear, and concise form encourages the Business man to confidently act on his own ideas. How many men, one wonders, have han just the same idea and have left it at that, as the mad who seized it, acted on it, and made a fortune out of it.

## How This Affects You.

Over forty thousand firms and business men are now using and profiting by the "Business Encyclopædia." Do you realise what this means? Do you quite understand how it affects you? It means that the standard of Business efficiency is higher to-day than it ever was before. It means that if *you* do not keep yourself abreast with Business knowledge, systematised and classified as it never was before, you must inevitably go under—that you will be crowded out of the Business fight.

And the men who realise this are the men who "got there" in Business. The way of Business success is the way of scientific and systematic Business knowledge—knowledge that can only be obtained in the "Business Encyclopædia"—knowledge that enables you to act with confidence on your own Business ideas because they are founded on this expert knowledge of Business.

This is the practical answer—and the only answer—to those who, seeing some men about where they were ten or twenty years ago, as regards success in Business, while others are mounting to wider heights with each succeeding year, ask—

## How Is It Done?

The answer is: "If you want to make money in Business, you must know all about Business. These are the men who know."


## A FREE BOOK.

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## THE GOVERNMENT AND SWEATED CLERKS.

By One of Them.

At the time when the Government is bringing in legislation against sweated labour in the various trades and industries in the country, it may be opportune to ask whether it intends to apply to the departments under its own immediate control this self-denying ordinance. Probably in all the records of sweated labour under the British flag there is none that can come up to the supreme indifference with which the Government treats its clerk slaves. Sweated labour in civil life can combine and petition, and struggle in some way to ameliorate their condition. In the Government services they are forbidden to make use of combination, or any other popular method of having their grievances redressed. They have to wait on the long delayed, scant consideration which their claims receive in the remodelling of some other department similar to their own.

If civil servants complain of injustice and unequal treatment while lacking the power to have it properly remedied, how much greater cause for complaint must there be in departments subject to military law and discipline. The treatment of clerical departments in the military service fairly baffles description, in the harshness of the injustice that is inflicted on many of the hardest worked, most competent and essential of public servants. Enough has been said in the public press about the hopeless muddling and endless expense that has been incurred in trying to eliminate the Army Pay Corps, only to reveal the hideous incapacity of the element that was to take its place. Critics of every description have tackled this subject, but all seemed to have passed over the Army Service Corps which constitutes the main clerical section of the Army, without which no army could take the field.

There you have a corps of men schooled in military clerical work from the time they join the service; first passing a learner's period, then through the various grades according to their ability, until finally the rank of chief clerk is reached, a most onerous and responsible duty. Their labour is of a most arduous nature, and it is only the most intelligent, trustworthy and assiduous men who push themselves forward to the higher ranks. But it is not those ranks that have so much to complain of. It is the lower grades. When a man is dismissed the square, he is placed in an office of which he is expected to learn the work and do his share in the shortest possible time. After he has made himself familiar with all the details of his office work he is graded a step higher. But the mere fact of his being graded higher does not entitle him to any increase of pay. No matter how proficient a clerk he may become, he must wait his turn for that, a matter of three or four years at the present rate of promotion. This rule leaves the most capable clerk, for all that time, on the same footing as the recruit that has just left the square. A highly anomalous condition. This is how they manage things in the Army, the advantages of which are so highly advertised at every street corner. Men of the Army Service Corps are supposed to be highly intelligent, men of brains and capacity, so their work is worth more to the Government than the ordinary infantryman. If the product of the brain is to be considered any better than the product of the spade, the Army Council and Mr. Haldane do not seem to recognise it.

Mr. Haldane took away Service Pay from the various departmental corps, but did not allow them to qualify for Proficiency Pay in return, though they too are combatant troops. Corps Pay is for the special duty which a man has to perform in connection with his department or corps, while Service Pay was his wage in common with other soldiers. When the latter was taken away, Corps Pay was all that remained, thus leaving him worse off than the ordinary line soldier. If promotion came to him any quicker, or if he rose faster to higher grades of pay, it would in some way make up for his loss. But no, he has to wait three or four years for the appointment of lance-corporal and the same period for an increase of Corps Pay, no matter how proficient he may be. I wonder if Mr. Haldane knows this. The average intelligent man in the Infantry, if he is smart at his drills, can be lance-sergeant within that time. Does Mr. Haldane consider this and think it right to keep men working in important military offices for three or four years at the sweated wage of 10s. a week without the chance of increment? Every man who goes away on the reserve and has suffered injustice acts as a most potent anti-recruiting influence; and why? Because a man may as well work for starvation wages in civil life and have his liberty, as work for the same wages in the military service and be bound by its restrictions.


A

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## A LUNACY SCANDAL.

Some little time ago we directed attention to the case of Miss Fawcett detained at Fiddington Asylum, Market Lavington, Devizes. We said that this lady had been put into this asylum without sufficient cause, that she was kept there against her will, and that if the Commissioners in Lunacy did their duty they would see that she was released. We added that prolonged detention might result in her becoming really insane.

We have since had information, upon which we are able to place absolute reliance, with respect to this unfortunate lady, which confirms our fear and makes it more than ever incumbent upon the Lunacy Commissioners to move in the matter. Our information is that on several occasions during the last few months—the last being only a few days ago—Miss Fawcett has sought to take her life, and her excuse each time has been that she despaired of ever leaving Fiddington House unless she did something desperate. The prolonged detention, combined with inadequate attention, has seriously affected the lady's mental health, and she is now subject to delusions which warrant the statement that she is not fit to be alone. But there is no sufficient ground for assuming that if she were removed from this asylum, and placed in bright surroundings, with competent treatment, she might not have before her many years of comparative health.

We understand that her brother, Mr. Robert Fawcett, of Chislehurst, visited Fiddington House a week or two ago, and upon being appealed to by his sister's companion to see that she was removed, answered that he could do nothing in the matter—that it rested with his sister, Mrs. Cuthbert, who lives at Bournemouth, and that she would not move.

But where are the Lunacy Commissioners? Miss Fawcett has appealed to them repeatedly to institute an inquiry into her case, and to release her from the asylum. Their reply, as we understand it, is that they can do nothing unless they are moved to action by Mrs. Cuthbert, the person who put Miss Faweett where she is. Can any reply be more characteristic or absurd? Miss Fawcett was put into the asylum against her will by persons who wished to have her put there. She remains there despite her wish, and notwithstanding that she is a person of means, because the relative who put her into the asylum wishes to keep her there. And yet the Commissioners will not move, because they are not asked to move by this same lady! In what conceivable circumstances would the Commissioners release a patient who ought not to be in an asylum if they will never inquire into her case unless asked to do so by persons who are, or may be, interested in keeping her there?

Our advice to those friends of Miss Fawcett who continue to take an interest in her case is that they should appeal once more to the Commissioners in Lunacy to institute an inquiry into the whole circumstances of Miss Fawcett's detention. Even now we find it difficult to believe that the Commissioners will refuse this request if it is properly placed before them. Surely a man like Dr. Needham must see the duty that rests upon him and his fellow Commissioners to make the inquiry asked for, with or without the sanction of Mrs. Cuthbert. The Act gives them the power to do all that is necessary without consulting relatives, and in this case of Miss Fawcett it seems to us to be the duty of the Commissioners to ignore the action of the relatives and to ascertain the real condition of the unhappy lady by means of independent inquiry.

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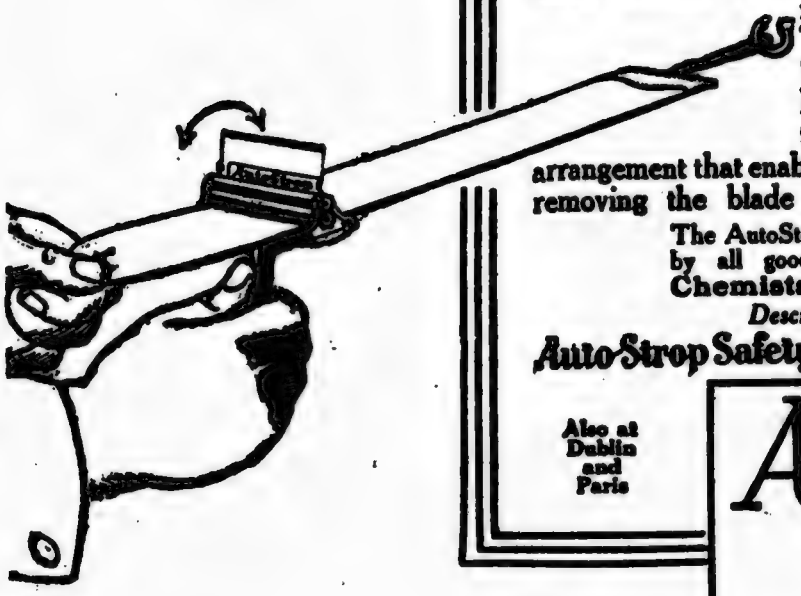
A reader has been good enough to send us a copy of the *Co-Partnership Journal*, which appears to be a monthly publication connected in some way with the South Metropolitan Gas Company. Our correspondent directs our attention to a paragraph on page 99, in which the writer, referring to our article on "The Penny-in-the-Slot Gas," and the action of some of the agents of the Gas Light and Coke Company in under-setting gas meters, says we occupied a whole page with ridiculous and easily-answered innuendoes concerning the Gas Light and Coke Company. We do not, however, find any attempt on the part of the *Co-Partnership Journal* to disprove any statement we made, and for the very excellent reason that disproof is impossible.


# How can you keep your razor sharp— if you don't strop it?

A razor blade must be regularly stropped to keep it in proper shaving condition. To expect several easy, comfortable, quick shaves from a blade *without stropping it*, is unreasonable.



The AutoStrop Safety Razor has a self-contained stropping arrangement that enables you, without removing the blade or taking anything apart, to put the keenest possible edge on the blade. No skill is required — in fact, the AutoStrop Safety Razor strops itself.

And, because it strops itself, you avoid the purchase of new blades necessary with all non-stropping razors. Thus you can save the cost of the AutoStrop Safety Razor in a year.

The AutoStrop Safety Razor is made in Great Britain.

The AutoStrop Safety Razor in case with 12 blades and strop is sold by all good **Cutlers, Ironmongers, Hairdressers, Chemists, Jewellers,** and at the **Stores,** Price **21/-** net.

*Descriptive Booklet free on request. Address Dept. M*

**AutoStrop Safety Razor Co. Ltd. 61 New Oxford Street, W.**

Also at Dublin and Paris

**AutoStrop SAFETY RAZOR**

Also at New York and Montreal

## AMONG THE LAWYERS.

### COMMISSIONERS OF ASSIZE.

Last week it was announced that Lord Gorell would take the Lord Chief Justice's place on the South Eastern circuit, but since then it seems the question has been raised whether a retired judge is qualified to act as a Commissioner of Assize, with the result that the intention to appoint Lord Gorell as a Commissioner is, according to the *Law Journal*, not to be carried out, and we notice elsewhere that Mr. Horace Avory, K.C., is to be the Commissioner. From Lord Gorell to Mr. Avory—well! well! There does not seem to be any ground for the assumption that an ex-judge cannot be a Commissioner of Assize. The duty of trying cases on circuit is confined to His Majesty's judges " or other persons usually named in Commissions of Assize," such persons being King's Counsel, Sergeants-at-Law, and County Court judges. Lord Gorell is still a judge, seeing that he sits upon the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and although there seems to be a difference of opinion on the point, we take it that a judge is still a K.C. " I am still one of you," said the late Lord Esher in his valedictory address to the Bar, and Sir Arthur Collins, K.C., in resigning the office of Chief Justice of Madras in 1899, resumed his place at the Bar, sitting, with the apparent sanction of the Bench, in the " front row." If an ex-Chief Justice of India remains a K.C., why not a retired judge of the High Court?

### ABSENT JUDGES.

Recently, says our sixpenny prototype, *Truth*, the King's Bench exemplified the beauties of the systems of which it has ever been a victim. That is true, but our contemporary goes on to make the following remarkable statement:—

> Under the latest arrangement, the creation of the Court itself, Mr. Justice Ridley was away on his Whitsun holiday. He will be on circuit at Whitsuntide, so the London work is upset.

This is beyond us. It is, however, true to say that the ill-advised appointment of Lord Justice Vaughan Williams to the Chairmanship of the Royal Commission on the Welsh Church has once more upset the Appeal Court, where for nearly a fortnight the Lord Chief Justice has been sitting in the absence of its President, and much to the derangement of business elsewhere.

### THE NELSON PENSION TEA COMPANY.

The Official Receiver has just notified creditors of the Nelson Pension Tea Company that a distribution of the Pension Fund may be expected in October or November next. The distribution will be quite insignificant, and it is not easy to say why those who are to get it have to wait till the end of the year for it. Meantime the action of the authorities in this matter affords another object lesson in the way in which they construe their duty in the matter of legal prosecutions. After the concern had had the benefit of Mr. Brougham's investigation into its affairs he reported:—

> That the company was a device by which Messrs. Catton and Bainbridge and others made large profits by deluding people into buying the company's tea on the faith of promises which those who made them knew perfectly well could not be performed. Having regard to these facts, I am of opinion that fraud has been committed in the conduct of the company's business.

Why is it, then, that no action has been taken upon this report? Seeing that the Winding-up Order was made four years ago it may be assumed that it is not the intention of the Public Prosecutor to move in the matter. Why? Upon what principle *does* he proceed where the Official Receiver reports fraud? In one case we find him using all the resources of the State in order to press the charge home to a person accused. In another *prima facie* equally bad, or it may be much worse case, he takes no action, and cannot be induced to take it. This erratic procedure is not of the kind to strengthen public confidence in the administration of justice in this country.

### COUNTY COURT JURISDICTION.

The Committee appointed by the Lord Chancellor to enquire into certain matters of County Court procedure have issued a report which has attracted less attention than it deserves from the public. It deals with many highly controversial matters in a way that cannot commend itself to the plain man. We have already directed attention to some of these points, but not perhaps to the strangest observation in the report, namely, that which says the Committee do not see their way to recommend that actions for libel, slander, seduction, and breach of promise of marriage, however small the amount claimed may be, should be tried in the County Courts, because, to quote the report, " it is not desirable to encourage them." But the Committee recommend that County Courts should have a limited jurisdiction in divorce. Is it, then, their opinion that it is desirable to encourage actions for divorce? And why should not the County Courts be allowed to try actions for libel, slander, seduction, and breach of promise of marriage? We can understand that the practising members of the Bar prefer that these actions shall be tried in the High Court, but it by no means follows that the opinion of successful barristers is identical with the public interest.

### LEGAL ANSWERS.

POOR RELIEF TO OLD MAN (Ede).—He should apply to the local relieving officer, who will inquire into the case and refer it to the Guardians. He must apply to the officer of the union where he now lives.

VACCINATION.—WILD WOODBINE.—You are not entitled to wages during suspension, if you accepted it as an alternative to dismissal. The law does not protect persons against such arbitrary action on the part of employers. The fiction that an unvaccinated person is a source of danger to others still has a large hold on the unthinking public mind.

DISTRAINT FOR RENT AND RATES.—A. B. C.—The fact that the furniture is the property of the wife does not protect it against a distress by the husband's landlord for rent, but it cannot be distrained on for rates as nothing but his own property can be seized under a warrant for them.

NURSING PATIENT.—E. J. C. (North).—The nurse is presumably engaged to use her best endeavours to tend the patient, but she must not be left in sole control, and there should be a medical man in attendance. Dismiss the nurse, and don't wait for the death of the patient.

JUSTICE.—We do not deal with any queries which do not bear the name and address of the writer.

MAINTENANCE OF MOTHER.—AJAX.—No one has any claim on the sons for the maintenance of their mother, but if she becomes chargeable to the poor rate, the Guardians can make the sons contribute, but in that event she would lose her old age pension. You can claim the 15s., and we should advise you to summon them.

MILLING MACHINES.—S. C. (Walthamstow).—It is not illegal for one man to work the machines if he can do so.

RIGHT TO TRADE NAME.—NEMO (Sheffield).—You cannot copyright the use of a trading name such as you mention, but if you use the name to trade in, you can by injunction restrain anyone else from copying your name for similar purposes.


Cailler's

THE GENUINE SWISS MILK CHOCOLATE

ASK FOR CAILLER'S SWISS BON-BONS, 2d. and 3d. per ounce.

NEW COMPETITION

*Just Commencing.*

PRIZES—Thousands of pounds in cash and other valuable prizes. Save your outside wrappers and send in by 31st July, 31st October, and January 31st, 1910, to Cailler's Competition Offices, 8/10, Duke Street, Liverpool. Prizes for all purchasers sending in outside wrappers of the face value of six shillings and upwards.

CONDITIONS.—The above prizes will be distributed to those Competitors sending in the largest number of Outside Wrappers taken from Cailler's 1d., 2d., and 6d. Tablets, and 2d., 3d., and 6d. Croquettes.

Shilling Tablets and Croquettes are not Eligible.

FULL PARTICULARS WILL BE FORWARDED TO ALL APPLICANTS ON RECEIPT OF STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE.

This Prospectus has been filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

The Subscription List will be opened on Monday, May 17, 1909, and will close for London at 4 o'clock on Wednesday, May 19, 1909, and for the Country on Thursday, May 20, 1909, at noon.

# THE LONDON AND RHODESIAN MINING AND LAND COMPANY, LIMITED.

(Incorporated in May, 1909, under the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908.

## CAPITAL - - - - - £300,000,

**In 300,000 Shares of £1 each: of which 122,500 will be allotted to the vendors in part payment of the purchase-money. 150,000 Shares are now offered for Subscription at par:**

Payable 5s. per Share on Application: 5s. per Share on Allotment; 5s. per Share on July 15; and 5s. per Share on October 15.

**No allotment will be made unless the whole 150,000 Shares are applied for.**

**DIRECTORS.**

HON. CHARLES WHITE, Fleet Farm House, Fleet, Hampshire Gentleman. (A Director of the Giant Mines of Rhodesia, Limited, and a Director of the Enterprise Gold Mining and Estates Company, Limited, of Rhodesia.)

HERBERT DE LA RUE, Six Mile Bottom, Newmarket, Gentleman. (A Director of the Enterprise Gold Mining and Estates Company, Limited.)

SAMUEL WEIL, 1, Gresham Buildings, Basinghall Street, London, Merchant. (Chairman of the Enterprise Gold Mining and Estates Company, Limited, and a Director of the Giant Mines of Rhodesia, Limited.)

JULIUS WEIL, 1, Gresham Buildings, Basinghall Street, London, Merchant. (A Director of the Enterprise Gold Mining and Estates Company, Limited.)

**BANKERS.**

THE LONDON CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, LIMITED, Threadneedle Street, London, and Branches.

THE STANDARD BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED, 10, Clement's Lane, London; Bulawayo, Gwelo, and Salisbury, Rhodesia.

**SOLICITORS.**

HOLLAMS, SONS, COWARD AND HAWKSLEY, 30, Mincing Lane, London.

**BROKERS.**

J. G. BONE AND SONS, 4, Copthall Court, E.C., and Stock Exchange.
C. MASSY AND CO., Post Office Chambers, and Stock Exchange, Cardiff.

**AUDITORS.**

DELOITTE, PLENDER, GRIFFITHS AND CO., 5, London Wall Buildings.

**SECRETARY.**

TOM PRIEST, 32, Old Jewry, London.

**REGISTERED OFFICES.**

32, Old Jewry, London.

## PROSPECTUS.

This Company is promoted by the well-known South African Firm of Messrs. Julius Weil and Company, 1, Gresham Buildings, Basinghall Street, London, and South Africa, to acquire from them the following valuable properties:—

(1) **199 Gold Claims in Southern Rhodesia**—179 of which are in the Kaiser Wilhelm Gold Belt, 125 miles east of Salisbury, and the remaining 20 are in the Lomagunda District. All these Gold Claims are held under Licence from the British South Africa Company, granted prior to Southern Rhodesia Ordinance No. 15 of 1908, thus giving the option and advantage of the right to commute the interest of the British South Africa Company or to pay Royalties, whichever may be considered preferable.

These Gold Claims were selected by Messrs. Julius Weil and Company, with the assistance of Mr. Ernest Edward Homan, who originally selected and prospected the Group of Claims comprising the Undertakings of the Enterprise Gold Mining and Estates Company, Limited, and the Giant Mines of Rhodesia, Limited.

A copy of Mr. Homan's report upon the 199 Gold Claims accompanies the Prospectus as an inset.

(2) **Certain Farm Lands**, comprising approximately 41,634 acres in the Districts of Salisbury, Gwelo, Charter, Victoria, and Marendellas.

The following is a short description of the Farm Lands, comprising the 41,634 acres:—

| | |
|---|---|
| SALISBURY DISTRICT.—Godavery and Inyati .. .. | 1,800 acres. |
| GWELO DISTRICT.—Missouri and Grove .. .. .. | 9,740 acres. |
| CHARTER DISTRICT.—Galt, Homanhurst and Good Hope .. | 11,766 acres. |
| VICTORIA DISTRICT.—Altona and Short's Plot .. .. | 3,560 acres. |
| MARENDELLAS DISTRICT.—Longlands .. .. .. .. | 14,768 acres. |
| Total .. .. | 41,634 acres. |

These properties are regarded as well selected, and have been acquired by Messrs. Julius Weil and Company from time to time, under the advice and assistance of Mr. Ernest Edward Homan, who had exceptional opportunities for selecting them.

(3) **Town Lots** in Bulawayo, Salisbury, Gwelo, Victoria, Umtali and Melsetter, as follows:—

BULAWAYO—

Stands Nos. 339 and 340, containing 97 square roods, 44 square feet, in the Market Square, let at £180 per annum.

Stand No. 297, containing 97 square roods, 32 square feet, let at £96 per annum.

Stand near the railway, held under lease from the British South Africa Company, dated 5th December, 1898, containing 566 square roods, 138 square feet, let under two tenancies at a rental of £114 per annum.

Stand No. 484, and two Half Stands, 531 and 214.

SALISBURY—

Stand No. 166, containing 41 square roods, 96 square feet, let at £150 per annum.

Nine Stands Nos. 1028, 1029, 1764, 1765, 1766, 1767, 1768, 1769 and 16.

ALSO

Three Stands at Gwelo, Nos. 49, 50 and 59, two Stands at Umtali, Nos. 103 and 1006, two Stands at Melsetter, Nos. 236 and 246, and one Stand at Victoria, No. 346.

(4) **47,000 fully-paid** shares of £1 each in "The Linchwe Concession Company, Limited," the total capital of which is 100,000 shares of £1 each; but only 94,000 shares have been issued. The Linchwe Company was incorporated in 1899, and has acquired a concession, granted in 1898 by Linchwe, Chief of the Bakhatla tribe, in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, to prospect for precious stones, gold, silver, platinum, and other minerals throughout the territory of the Chief; and to mark off before July 22, 1913, for mining operations, one or more areas not to exceed in the aggregate 100 square miles, together with such wood, water, or other easements as may be necessary for the due working thereof. The rent payable to the Chief is £100 per annum. The concession was approved by the Imperial Government, subject to the condition that the areas to be marked off should not exceed four. The balance of the Issued Share Capital is held or controlled by the British South Africa Company.

(5) **59,000 fully-paid** shares of £1 each in The Imperial Gold Mines of Rhodesia, Limited, registered under Rhodesian Company Law, the total capital of which is £100,000, whereof 77,250 shares have already been issued. This Company owns 270 Base Metal Mining Claims in the Umtali District, Southern Rhodesia and also 16 farms in the same district, containing about 47,000 acres.

The purchase price has been fixed by Messrs. Julius Weil and Company as the Promoters of and Vendors to the Company at £142,500 payable as to £20,000 in cash and £122,500 in fully paid Shares of the Company.

In connection with the selection and location of some of the above gold claims the Vendors have bought out prospecting and other interests from the following, viz: Leonard Homan, 28th August, 1906, for £550; Max Bornkessel, 13th September, 1906, for £200; Newman Smith, 11th March, 1909, for £500; J. J. Nias, 17th March, 1909, for 500 fully-paid shares in the capital of the Company at par; and E. E. Homan, for £6,000 cash and £8,000 shares in the capital of the Company under letter dated 17th March, 1909, addressed by him to the Vendors, and replied to on the following day.

Mr. Samuel Weil and Mr. Julius Weil are both interested in the promotion of the Company as partners in the above-mentioned firm of Julius Weil and Co., each having a third interest in the said partnership.

The whole of the 150,000 shares now offered for subscription have been underwritten. The underwriting letters are addressed to Mr. Julius Weil, as trustee for the Company, and are all dated in the present month. The Company is paying to the underwriters a commission of 10 per cent. as to one moiety in cash and as to the other moiety in fully-paid Shares in the capital of the Company, and to Brokers who procure underwriters 6d. a share.

The vendors will pay the expenses incidental to the formation of the Company, including the issue of this Prospectus, and advertising and legal charges, but the Company will pay the duties on the registration of the Company and the transfer of the assets, also the underwriting commission and brokerage

The preliminary expenses are estimated to amount to £24,500, which includes the above mentioned underwriting commission and brokerage and the above expenses payable by the Vendors.

By Agreement dated 14th May, 1909, made between Julius Weil and Company, of the one part, and the Company of the other part, the firm has agreed to act as Managers of the Company for a period of five years from the date on which the Company shall become entitled to commence business, at a salary of £2,500 per annum and 10 per cent. of the net profits of the Company of each year remaining after payment in that year to the Members of a dividend of £10 per cent. on the amount paid on their shares. No Member of the firm is to receive from the Company any further remuneration by virtue of his being a Director of the Company. Messrs. Julius Weil and Co. bind themselves to give the Company the offer to purchase during the period of their management at cost any properties situate in Rhodesia that may be offered to or acquired by them.

An Agreement dated the 14th May, 1909, has been made between Julius Weil, Samuel Weil, and Benjamin Burtie Weil, trading as Julius Weil and Company of the one part and the Company of the other part, being the Agreement for sale.

The sbecription to the present issue will, it is anticipated, provide a working capital of not less than £110,000, which the Directors consider ample for the purposes of equipping and developing the Mining properties, and to leave considerable surplus in hand for farming operations, and for the erection of additional buildings on some of the town lots.

The following are the provisions of the Articles of Association as to the qualification and remuneration of Directors:—

86. The qualification of every Director shall be the holding of shares of the Company of the nominal value of £250. A first Director may act before acquiring his qualification, but shall in any case acquire the same within two months from his appointment, and unless he shall do so he shall be deemed to have agreed to take the said shares from the Company, and the same shall be forthwith allotted to him accordingly.

87. The Directors, other than the said Samuel Weil and Julius Weil, shall each be paid out of the funds of the Company by way of remuneration for their services at the rate of £200 per annum, and such further sums as the Company may in General Meeting from time to time determine.

88. If any Director shall be required to perform extra services, or go or reside abroad, or shall otherwise be specially occupied about the Company's business he shall be entitled to receive a remuneration to be fixed by the Board, or at the option of such Director by the Company in General Meeting, and such remuneration may be either in addition to or in substitution for the remuneration under the last preceding Article.

Mr. Homan will have the conduct and management of the affairs of the Company in Rhodesia.

The Vendors will pay a Brokerage of 3d. per Share on allotments made to applicants (other than underwriters) whose applications bear Brokers' stamps.

A copy of the Company's Memorandum of Association is printed in the fold of the Prospectus.

Application will be made to the Committee of the Stock Exchange in London for a settlement in and quotation of the Company's Shares.

Applications for Shares should be made upon the form accompanying the Prospectus and sent to the Company's Bankers, the London City and Midland Bank, Limited, 5, Threadneedle Street, London, E.C., or to one of its Branches, or to the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, 10, Clement's Lane, London, E.C., or to the Offices of the Company, sch applications being accompanied by a remittance of the amount of the deposit on the number of Shares applied for.

If the whole number of Shares applied for by any Applicant be not allotted, the deposit, or such part thereof as will suffice, will be appropriated towards the sum due on allotment. Applicants to whom no allotment is made or whose deposit is beyond that required to meet the further payment on allotment will receive back their deposits or such excess as the case may be without deduction.

Failure by any allottee in payment at the due date of any instalment will render the allotment liable to cancellation and the deposit to forfeiture.

Copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company, and the above-mentioned Agreements and letters, and the underwriting letters, as also a report by Mr. Homan, may be seen at the offices of the Solicitros, Messrs. Hollams, Sons, Coward and Hawkesley, 30, Mincing Lane, London, during usual business hours, until the closing of the subscription list.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application can be obtained from the Bankers and Brokers of the Company, and at the Offices of the Company.

Dated the 15th of May, 1909.

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**THIS FORM MAY BE USED.**

**THE LONDON AND RHODESIAN MINING AND LAND COMPANY, LIMITED.**

(Incorporated in May, 1909, under the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908.

Issue of 150,000 Shares of £1 each.

**FORM OF APPLICATION.** No .....

To the Directors of
THE LONDON AND RHODESIAN MINING AND LAND COMPANY, LIMITED.

GENTLEMEN,—Having paid to..... the sum of £....., being 5s. per share on..... shares of the above-named Company, I request you to allot to me that number of shares, and I agree to accept the same or any less number you may allot to me upon the terms of the Prospectus of May 15, 1909, and to pay the balance of 15s. per share as thereby provided; and I authorise you to place my name on the Register as the holder of the said shares.

Please write distinctly.

Signature .....
Name (in full) .....
Address .....
.....
Description .....
Date .....1909.

## OPEN LETTERS, POST-CARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

**To the Stewards of the Jockey Club.**

GENTLEMEN,—There is hovering about London a little man who ten years ago was the idol of the racing public, and the most romantic figure in the racing world. His name is Tod Sloan. Coming from America he taught our jockeys how to ride. The most wayward and erratic animal became a tame circus pony in his hands. Selling platers, ridden by him, won important handicaps and cups. Your Newmarket course was re-christened "Sloan Avenue." The little punter stood by the Notice Board waiting for the number of the Little Wonder's mount—that was all he wished to know. Owners vied with each other for his services, and princely sums were paid him. Then came the trouble. One of your own class, the late Lord William Beresford—grandest of sportsmen—became his principal patron; won scores of races with him; pampered and petted him; gave dinners in his honour, with Lily, Duchess of Marlborough as hostess; showered presents and favours upon him—and turned his head. Remember that, gentlemen, it was one of yourselves who did this. He did it, it is true, out of large-hearted, but thoughtless generosity—but did it. Then the little man—for he was only a jockey (and nobler men have been as weak)—gave himself airs. Smoking cigars equal in length to almost his own height, and garbed in the latest fashion of sartorial art, he would patronise the theatre lounge and the music-hall promenade night after night., whilst curious women and silly men craned their necks to get a glimpse of him. But next morning in silk and breeches he was mounting potential winners in the paddock and bringing them back triumphant to the plaudits of an idolatrous crowd. Any wonder, gentlemen, that in these circumstances—for he was only a jockey!—when an Ascot waiter dared to "answer" him, a crack on the head with a champagne bottle should have been his retort? Any wonder that fancying his mount for a big Autumn handicap, and with pockets lined with gold, he should have forgotten that jockeys must not bet, and have backed his horse to win a fortune? Is not it, gentlemen, a wonder that his faults were not more serious? Did he ever linger at the post, or pull a horse, or do any other dishonest act? You saw him, as I did, day after day, crouching like some uncanny imp upon the horse's neck, with set teeth and frenzied eye, riding like grim death to victory. Never had such jockey been seen upon our courses. Never had such upheavals of form been wrought in our horses. Willy nilly, they had to win—and win they did. Our own jockeys looked on and marvelled. Verily a new jockey had come to Newmarket. But, alas, others also came to Newmarket—in the shape of the American Invasion of Undesirables. And then you put the little man "down." That you did this in the best and highest interests of the Turf no one will deny. And, generous sportsmen as you are, you did it in a kindly way. There was no "warning off." You simply caused it to be intimated to the little American that it were better he should not again apply for his licence. We were all sorry for him—deeply sorry—but we had faith and confidence in you and knew you had acted for the best.

But, gentlemen, that is upwards of eight years ago. During all the long period which has elapsed, the little man has been wandering about the world, buffetted from one place to another, sustained only by pride of the past and hope for the future. And now he is back amongst us once more, a subdued and mellowed man—all his money, and his follies, vanished—looking to you appealingly for permission to resume his calling and earn an honest living.

Gentlemen, you are the guardians of the honour and the interests of our National Sport, and I have ever respected the inviolable purity of motive which has characterised the exercise of your great powers. But eight years and a half is a long term of punishment for any man to endure, and it would be a relief to all our minds if, as you have so often done in other cases—cases where indeed the cause of your displeasure has been more grave—you could now see your way to give the little fellow another chance in life. JOHN BULL.

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**To Bailie Guest, Glasgow.**

SIR,—I am not among those who are seriously irritated by the feebler forms of judicial humour. But I must protest against your vulgar impertinence. I note that a lady was brought up before you the other day on a charge of drunkenness. She had evidently been in the wars, and when you told her to walk across the room she whimpered that she could not bend. "I see," you remarked, amid the roars of the Court, "you don't want to be caught bending." Then she pleaded that she was unable to stand, and you indulged in this idiotic inanity: "'Nobody has asked you to stand anything; this is a teetotal place." If it were not contempt of Court, I should like to throw you into the Clyde. You may be very pawky, but you might make an effort to behave like a gentleman.

JOHN BULL.

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**To S. Taprell Holland, Esq., J.P., Watford.**

SIR,—At the last sitting of the bench a woman before you pleaded that she had been unable to send her children to school because they had "no proper boots or clothing." She was herself poorly clad, as you could see, and in this plight explained to you that her husband had only that morning been discharged from prison, where he had been serving a sentence for his inability to pay a fine for the non-attendance of the children at school. He was now without employment, and she herself was maintaining the family and the home by earning what she could; no one had helped her with a single penny. That simple, pathetic story of hardship, and poverty, and struggle, should have made some impression on your head, even if it did not suffice to touch your heart. Yet when it was told, and told with all the intensity of earnest pleading, what was your answer? "The chairman," says the reporter, "remarked that this was a very bad case. The father would have to pay 10s., or go back to prison for seven days." Sir, that decision was not only heartless, but senseless. What purpose can it serve? And what does the community gain, or the woman or the children, if he is again sent to prison? Will *you* give the woman bread when her husband is in gaol? Will *you* give these children boots for their feet and clothing for their backs? Where in this case is the reason which makes judgment strong, the mercy which makes justice good in human sight? JOHN BULL.

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**To Bailie Wilkie, Aberdeen.**

MY DEAR WILKIE,—I heartily approve of the resolution passed, under your chairmanship, by the joint meeting of the Pension and Sub-Committees of the Burgh of Aberdeen, which calls upon the Local Government Board to make such provision as will ensure that all claims under the Act shall be investigated and reported "with less delay than pertains meanwhile." I gather that in Aberdeen especially the delay in dealing with the claims of applicants entails grave hardship on the aged poor.

To some extent no doubt the delay is due to the rush to obtain a legislative novelty. As time goes on, the official machine will move with a more rapid precision. In the meantime I gather that the Aberdeen Postmaster is not to blame. He not only keeps his pension officers moving, but he has set aside a roomy glass-roofed outhouse in which applicants and pensioners may foregather. Here he has placed tables supplied with pens, ink, blotting pads, and forms galore, chairs for the resting of weary bodies, and, on cold nights, a roaring fire to comfort and to cheer. I do not know whether a beneficent Government is paying for the coals and the furniture, my dear Wilkie, but I assume this is so. Not the less do I like the kindly thought of your Postmaster, even if he sees to it that the Government foot the bill to the last bawbee. Some of my Aberdeen friends tell me that he often appears among the old folk and passes the word of solace to them in their anxieties. I feel sure that if it were possible his heart would be big enough for him also to pass the whusky.

JOHN BULL.

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**General Ian Hamilton.**

Notice you have taken pledge for twelve months. Anything to do with the Budget? Advise waiting decision of Peers. BULL.

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**Teddy Roosevelt, Africa.**

Don't think much of you as a sportsman. Why on earth did you want to kill all those giraffes? I wish you would stay at home and play with the toy bears. BULL.

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**Florence Nightingale, Crimean Heroine, Bravo House, South Street, London.**

Sincere congratulations on entering ninetieth year. While England is England your name will never die, your deeds never be forgotten. BULL.

# A DIFFICULT BALANCING FEAT.

FARMER GEORGE: "I think twenty per cent. of this one's wool will about balance it."

## IN THE CITY.

*It is requested that all letters to be answered on the City pages be addressed to the* City Editor, *67, Long Acre, W.C.*

*Letters requiring an answer in the next issue of* John Bull *must be received not later than Friday.*

*We shall be obliged to Secretaries of Insurance Companies if they will send us their reports when issued, and, from time to time, any other information concerning their Companies which may be of public interest.*

### RUBBER.

Last week we wrote, "We venture to predict that a very active market for some time to come will be in rubber shares, and investors will be well advised in turning their attention to this department." Our prediction is being speedily fulfilled, as with the exception of the South African, no other market has been so active. At the end of the week a veritable boom started, which can be best described by quoting the *Financial News* of Saturday:—"The market for rubber shares was buoyant throughout yesterday's session. The large business on hand could not be coped with during the official hours, and led to very extensive transactions being put through for some time after the 'House' had closed;" and the *Financial Times* of the same date:—"Rubber shares were again the outstanding feature, dealings being on a very large scale and prices closing at a further general advance."

For a long time investors held aloof from this market, being constantly fearful of the advent of synthetic rubber, and the consequent depreciation of the prices of the natural commodity. It would appear now, from the large numbers of investment orders that are being received by brokers, that these fears have been allayed. As perhaps many of our readers are not acquainted with the statistics of rubber, we are appending a few which may be of interest.

The present area in the rubber-growing districts now under cultivation is approximately 500,000 acres, which, when in a fully bearing condition, will have involved an expenditure of upwards of fifteen million pounds sterling.

In the year 1907 the output of cultivated rubber was approximately two million pounds, whereas in 1908 it had increased to over three and a half millions. These figures apply only to cultivated rubber, so in addition there is the very large quantity of indigenous or wild rubber from Brazil, amounting to over eight million pounds, which, however, can never compete with the cultivated article.

On reading these figures one is apt naturally to ask the question if the production is so rapidly increasing, will not the supply outstrip the demand?

We do not think so. The demand for rubber is daily increasing, and to our idea will continue to increase. We must again, however, emphasise our warning to investors to take great care in the selection of their investments, as there are now many shares quoted at prices quite out of all reason compared with their prospects, and there are certain to be many "wild cats" spring up in the boom as there are in every boom. It is for that reason we recommend investments at this stage in parent companies. It is a most difficult thing for the average investor to find out for himself the true merits of an undertaking—and especially in a new market—and even then the risk is run of the failure of an individual enterprise, through some unforeseen circumstance.

By investing in a company which is in constant touch with the various movements of the rubber market, and the directors and managers of which are in a position to thoroughly gauge the merits of the various propositions, the risk of being stuck with a "wild cat" is eliminated, in addition to which the non-success of one investment is more than compensated by the greater success of another.

At the present time, our advice to those who desire to become interested in the rubber market is to acquire shares in an undertaking such as the Rubber Exploration Company, as we mentioned last week, whose shares, which are of the denomination of £1 and are fully paid, at the time of going to press stand at a little over par—about 21s.—so that they have not yet received any sudden inflation in price. From all that we can gather it is the intention of the directors that the Rubber Exploration Company shall be to the Rubber Market what the Consolidated Goldfields has been and is to the South African Market.

### THE NATIONAL CASH REGISTER COMPANY.

We have received a large number of letters from shopkeepers who have bought this register at the old prices and now find themselves landed with them whilst competitors in business are able to buy them at something like one-third of the old cost. One firm sends us a letter they have received in reply to their protest. This letter is signed by Charles Palmer, the Managing Director, and he enters into a long explanation of the reasons which induced the cutting prices. The first two reasons given are as strange as any we have ever read in explanation of a reduction in the price of the article sold to the extent of two-thirds of the original charge. Here they are:—

(1) We have spent thousands of pounds in the erection of new buildings at our factory which were necessary for the proper working of our business.

(2) We have also spent considerable sums of money in putting in the latest improved machinery at our factory in order to produce cash registers at a lower rate.

Having incurred this expenditure the Company has been moved thereby to reduce the prices of their machines to a quotation which, as one of our correspondents assures us, and we believe, is below cost price.

What the Company have to answer is the allegation that the registers sold up to the date of the commencement of the price-cutting were sold upon the distinct and specific assurance of the Company that they would never reduce the prices of machines, and would be willing to buy them back at any time, proper allowance being made for depreciation, upon the basis of the price given for them.

Messrs. Shirtliff and Co., Dispensing Chemists, 2, Elmwood Gardens, Acton, W., write to us to say that they have three of the registers, for the first of which they gave 40 guineas, and for the other two 45 guineas each, upon the assurance that the price would never be reduced, whereas a new one of the same kind can now be bought for £13. Messrs. Shirtliff and Co. suggest that the very many other shopkeepers in a similar position to themselves should combine with them to take legal proceedings to test the action of the company, and we think the suggestion a good one.

### WALDORF HOTEL.

There is some mystery regarding the policy of the Board of this company. Does it desire to depreciate the price of its ordinary stock? It would almost seem so from the course adopted at the recent meeting. A sum of upwards of £6,000 was appropriated to payment of "accrued interest upon the preference shares prior to the opening of the Hotel," and a further sum of £4,000 to "reserve for redemption of debentures in terms of Trust Deed, and general depreciation," although we understand that no Sinking Fund is really necessary until the end of the present year. Apparently, with one exception, the members of the present Board have no really substantial interest in the company, and we should strongly advise the ordinary shareholders—other than those who are under the control of the contractors—to bestir themselves. Why not form an independent committee to check the proceedings of the directorate?

The company appears to be doing a magnificent and increasing business, and it is little short of a scandal that there should be no Quotation for its ordinary stock—in which we believe no Settlement has even yet been applied for—and that its preference shares should be nominally quoted at a large discount. Perhaps Mr. J. M. Henderson, M.P., will enlighten us as to what is going on.

### LAW GUARANTEE, TRUST AND ACCIDENT SOCIETY.

The Press does not appear to have taken much notice of the call of £4 per share just made by the Law Guarantee, Trust and Accident Society upon its members. A large number of small investors, never anticipating this demand, had acquired holdings in the company, with the result that they are now put in a position of considerable difficulty, and at the time of writing many shareholders are endeavouring to rid themselves of their holdings by paying as much as £2 per share to persons willing to take transfers.

There can be little doubt that the company has for some time past been considerably overloading itself with obligations, and it might be a desirable thing for the shareholders generally to insist upon a full investigation as to the actual position—the result of which, we venture to predict, would be a revelation to them.

Messrs. Lloyd George, Roberts and Co. write us in reference to our statement that they are solicitors to the National Standard Life Assurance Corporation, to say that they have acted in the past as solicitors to the Corporation, but "have now ceased to do so for some time."

We invite attention to the Prospectus of the London and Rhodesian Mining and Land Co., Ltd., which will be found on another page.

## FINANCIAL ENQUIRIES.

NATIONAL CASH REGISTER.—HAD (Guildford).—We note that in November last you bought a machine for 85 guineas, payable £10 down and seven guineas monthly; that about the 1st of July last this type was suddenly reduced in price to £65, and at the present time can be bought for £30, at which price your principal competitor bought a machine. You confirm our statements that the Company, through their travellers, stated they would allow the same price back less a rebate of 5 per cent. per annum, and you want to know whether, having regard to this breach of contract, you should resist the payment of instalments still due. We think you should. P. G. (Kensal Rise).—It might be better to take counsel's advice, but it seems to us that, in the circumstances, you can successfully resist payment. S. R. (Clapham Common).—We thank you for your letter, in which you tell us that Palmer was instrumental in recently sacking the whole of the indoor staff at Tottenham Court Road, at least, if not absolutely all, the bulk of it. H. R. (London).—We cannot give you the latest price for the Registers, for one of which you paid £62 10s. four or five months ago, but we notice in the April price list of the Company that the Register at that time selling for £57 15s., is now offered at £16 net cash. You say that, in respect to your £62 10s. machine, the Company assured you that you "could always consider it an asset worth £40."

BIRKBECK BANK.—J. A. (Hull).—We have no doubt that if you have been credited with less than is your due, upon representing the matter to the manager of the bank it will be put right.

ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY'S SHARES.—F. H. G. (Dover).—We agree with you that the shares of some of the leading electric light companies are among the most promising of speculative investments. As to the shares of the Bromley (Kent) Company, they are inviting. The company is doing well, it is likely to do better, and the present yield is good. And the £5 shares of the Brompton and Kensington Electricity Company are also a very promising investment at their present price of about 8¾. Upon the basis of the last dividend of 10 per cent., they yield about 6 per cent., and there is every likelihood of the dividend being maintained. We thank you for your kind expressions towards ourselves.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.—H. C. (Birmingham).—Your money is perfectly safe. J. B. (Paddington).—Ditto.

INVESTMENT OF £200.—L. H. (Kilburn).—Both the associations you name are sound and well managed.

MUREX MAGNETIC COMPANY.—G. K. (Edinburgh).—It is a new process for the extraction by magnetism of base metals from ore, and may prove to be of considerable importance, especially to companies like those of the Broken Hill group, where the refractory ore dealt with contains a combination of silver, lead, and zinc.

STATUS OF BANK.—CAPTAIN (Whitley Bay).—In the circumstances we should prefer the Birkbeck Bank. E. M. H. (London).—We do not think you need have any cause for anxiety.

UNITED STOCK AND SHARE CORPORATION.—CONSTANT READER (Basingstoke).—Have nothing to do with the "Special Stock Combine No. 9a," or any other devices for transferring money from your pocket into that of other folks. E. C. (Leicester).—The assurance of these people that, if you send them £10, there will be "a certain return of something like 225 per cent. profit" is all moonshine, and you are a fool for being disposed to believe them.

J. J. MORELLE.—G. W. J. (London).—We have no information respecting this person. As to the wisdom of your friend paying him £5, we cannot express an opinion without knowing more of the facts.

ARNOLD AND BUTLER.—E. J. B. (Yarmouth).—These people closed their business, thanks to our efforts in the work of exposure, many months ago, and the only thing you can do is to write off your loss as a bad debt. If it prevents your dealing with such people again there will be some compensation for the present loss.

EIGHT PER CENT. SHARES.—A READER FROM NO. 1 (Hackney).—We think not. In the ordinary meaning of the phrase the interpretation would be that certain ordinary shares were paying 8 per cent., whereas, apparently, you are referring to a new company, whose articles of association state that a dividend of 8 per cent. is to be paid on the ordinary shares, which is quite another matter. If the company makes no profits, or insufficient, it cannot pay 8 per cent.

PORTMAN CHAPEL BUILDING SOCIETY.—REGULAR READER (St. Pancras).—It is a large, well managed, and financially strong society.

CRÉDIT DE L'EPARGNE.—B. C. O. (Hampstead).—We advise you to have nothing to do with the concern. We return you the papers sent us.

OUTSIDE BROKERS.—T. D. (Freshwater).—Our advice to you is not to have dealings with any of these brokers. H. D. (Bath).—Have nothing to do with the people you name. As to the £5 note, we advise you to keep it in your pocket, or, if you *must* spend it, better give a friend a lunch than waste it on one of these touting brokers. C. J. L. (Walthamstow).—Have nothing to do with them unless you want to lose your money. G. F. (Chesterfield).—Ditto.

LONDON AND PARIS EXCHANGE.—W. E. G. (Birmingham).—Your information is correct. We have nothing of a reassuring character to tell you. B. S. A. (Belfast).—Your question should be addressed to the Receiver. R. A. N. (Fordingbridge).—We advise you, if you can, to avoid the payment, but it is a matter upon which you should consult a solicitor. L. C. (Bristol).—You will have to find some other means of getting the information. The liquidator is not likely to send it to you.

SAFE INVESTMENTS.—UNIQUE (Hull).—Your money is, of course, quite safe in the Hull Savings Bank. As to putting it in something "better," we suppose you mean in the sense of giving you a larger yield. It would be quite easy to put it into sound securities, easily realisable, and returning, at their present quotations, and on the basis of the last dividend, from 5 per cent. to 6 per cent. As to the shares you have in the Hull Brewery Company, Limited, why not keep them? The company is one of the most prosperous of the brewing companies. Last year it not only paid 12 per cent. on the ordinary shares, but added a bonus of 5s. per share, and you can hardly want anything better than that. CERTIFICATE (Brighton).—You need be under no apprehension. The Government Savings Bank is, of course, absolutely safe, seeing that it has the guarantee of the Government behind it. What we said was that, if it stood alone, it could not pay its way, but, of course, the Government is behind it. As to whether you should put your money into Consols, if you are satisfied with the yield the security is, of course, as good as it can be. BABAC (Brynamman).—You want to know where you can safely invest £20 and deposit £20. Our advice to you would be to keep the £40 in the Savings Bank for the present, anyway.

INDUSTRIAL SHARES.—J. T. (Kemp Town).—We recommend Rubber Explorations.

## INSURANCE ENQUIRIES.

PURCHASE OF HOUSE.—C. L. (Ruardean).—The British Homes Assurance Corporation would do what you want. Its address is 6, Paul Street, Finsbury. J. A. (Newry).—You want to know the best insurance company with which to deal with regard to either purchasing or building a house. There are many companies offering advantageous terms. For example, there is the Pioneer House Purchase Endowment Scheme of the Pioneer Life Assurance Company, which combines house purchase with life assurance. After a policy has been in force three or four years, as the case may be, the holder becomes entitled to a loan to enable him to purchase the property he wishes to acquire, and this loan is extinguished by the endowment assurance policy maturing at the end of the prescribed term. In this way you would be enabled to become your own landlord by paying to the company for 15 or 20 years very little more than you would otherwise be compelled to pay in the form of rent. A STAUNCH ADMIRER (Whitechapel).—The Perpetual, of New Bridge Street, would treat you well. As to the amount of the advance you could get, speaking generally, it is three-fourths of the valuation; but, upon occasion and where the property can be bought on favourable terms, the Perpetual would probably advance you seven-eighths.

INSURABLE INTEREST.—F. L. M.—If you have no insurable interest in the life, you cannot recover either the amount due at the maturity of the policy or the premiums you have already paid. We return your policy.

STAR LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—PAT (Felixstowe).—This Company is not doing quite as well as some of its competitors.

TWO INSURANCE COMPANIES.—A. K. T. (Tollington Park).—If you insure with the Prudential at the age of 45, endowment insurance payable at 65 with profits, you would pay an annual premium of £5 14s. 5d. If you insure with the Sun at the same age and for the same endowment insurance, the payment would be £5 11s. 5d.

EXCELSIOR ASSURANCE SOCIETY, LIMITED.—E. W. C.—We should prefer another selection.

THE PROVIDENT FREE HOMES ASSURANCE CORPORATION.—J. W. (Walsall).—It is of financial strength and honestly managed. The same remark applies to the Abstainers' and General Insurance Company of Birmingham.

NATIONAL STANDARD COMPANY.—DEA (Wigton).—We think your better plan in the circumstances would be, as you suggest, to join this company.

BRITISH EQUITABLE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—F. D. (Maidenhead).—We will communicate with our correspondent, and, if he has no objection, we will put him in communication with you.

PROFITS AND INCOME INSURANCE COMPANY.—G. W. (Paddington).—In the circumstances we should go on paying the premiums.

UNITED KINGDOM TEMPERANCE AND GENERAL PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.—T. T. T. (London).—We are much obliged to you for the report of the meeting you send us, but we remain of the opinion that the action ought not to have been fought.

CLAIM UPON SOCIETY.—COPPER (Bootle).—If the facts are as you state them, you would seem to have a claim upon the society, but you should consult a solicitor.

SICKNESS INSURANCE.—OWLERSHAW (Uttoxeter).—One of the best of the sickness insurance offices is the Scottish Accident Life and General Insurance Company.

TWO INSURANCE COMPANIES.—PUZZLED (Hendon).—Taking an endowment assurance with profits, the total value of policy at maturity obtainable for £10 annual premium, plus bonuses at the same rate as declared at last valuation, the policy maturing at the age of 60, would be in the case of the Scottish Widows £446, and of the Scottish Life £458.

INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—E. P. (Pontefract).—The company was established in 1906, and its headquarters are at Manchester. It does motor, accident, burglary and employers' liability, fire, life, stock, and so on.

STAR LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—F. W. R. (Leeds).—We regret we cannot help you, but the society acts upon system in these matters. It has made you the offer which its rules allow, and it would be quite hopeless for you to fight them on the subject. We return the letters from the society.

INSURABLE INTEREST.—P. C. (Harlesden).—There is no hard and fast rule. Each case has to be decided upon the facts bearing upon it. Where it can be shown that there is an insurable interest, as, for example, where the wife had performed household duties and looked after the children, and, in consequence of her death, the husband had to employ a servant, it was held that, though a husband is not presumed to have an insurable interest on his wife's life, the husband had, in the circumstances in this case, such an insurable interest, and was entitled to recovery, although the services rendered by the wife were not rendered in consequence of any binding legal obligation. E. D. (Wood Green).—Ditto. FARMER.—You are able to answer the question you put as well as we can. No insurance company ought to issue a policy it knows to be illegal, and, when it matures, plead illegality to avoid payment. R. H. (Margate).—Ditto.

BRITISH NATURAL PREMIUM LIFE ASSOCIATION.—RADETT (Finsbury Park).—The answer is in the negative. J. B. (Leeds).—Since referring to the question of the amalgamation of this company with the National Standard Life Assurance Corporation, Limited, last week, we have looked more closely into the matter, and we are satisfied that you will be acting very unwisely if you support the minority in its attempt to prevent the completion of the arrangements already sanctioned by the directors and shareholders of the two companies. Assuming the opposition was successful, which we think very unlikely, branch policy-holders would do themselves much more injury than they could do to the National Standard Life Assurance Company. The British Natural Premium Company was run upon wrong lines from start to finish. It was without sound actuarial guidance, and it was never really solvent. But, under the arrangement with the National Standard Life Assurance Corporation, it would come under the supervision of Mr. C. H. E. Rea, who is a well-known actuary, with great experience of both ordinary and industrial life business, and, if any man can put an insurance business that has gone wrong upon a sound basis, Mr. Rea will do it. The only plausible objection we have met with to the proposed amalgamation is that the National Standard Life Assurance Corporation is not a strong institution. It is true that it was only registered some three or four years ago, but it has made rapid progress, and the cash assets of the combined corporation already amount to £81,000, which, with other assets, such as monies invested on mortgages, cash in hand, and so on, make a total of £120,000, in addition to which there is an uncalled capital of £26,675. Only within the last few days an agreement with the New Era Assurance Corporation has been completed, and other amalgamations are in view, which promise to make the corporation a large one. Additional capital is about to be provided, so as to meet the rapidly extending business of the company, and there is no ground for suggesting that it cannot fulfil any agreement it has entered into with the British Natural Premium Company. Since the Standard took over the direction of that Company its position has greatly improved, and from being in desperate plight, it may now be said to be paying its way. Its shares, which recently could be bought at 1s. apiece, can now be readily sold at from 5s. to 6s., and, if only you policy-holders give the new management a hearty support, the improvement, already so considerable, will, we do not doubt, continue, greatly to your advantage. DOUBTFUL (Manchester).—See previous answer.

FIRE INSURANCE WITH PROFITS.—J. W. (Birmingham).—The only Insurance Company we remember, apart from mutual benefit societies, which nowadays works upon the principle of profit sharing with regard to Fire Insurance, is the Essex and Suffolk Equitable Insurance Co., founded as far back as 1802, and reconstructed by special Act of Parliament three years ago.

CYCLISTS' INSURANCE.—W. H. M. (Bristol).—The Provincial Fire Insurance Company undertakes cyclists' insurance.

## THE CHILDREN'S CHAMPION.

By Hugh Wyand.

"Ain't it right wot I sez?"

Being the only other occupant remaining in the compartment, the argumentative man in the corner turned upon me; but not having followed the intricacies of the discussion, I stared at him rather blankly. He edged along the seat till he faced me, held his short clay between the dirty forefinger and thumb of one hand, placed the other on his knee, leant forward, and observed:

"Wot I wants ter know is, wot is things comin' to?"

I did not feel I could enlighten him off-hand. He gazed at me fixedly for several seconds, put his pipe to his lips, and pulled at it fiercely—but it was out.

"Wy," he said, "this 'ere Children's Bill."

"Oh!"

"Yus. Wot is things comin' to? I wants ter know."

Again I failed to satisfy his curiosity.

"Look at me, guv'nor! I've drunk and smoked ever since I was so 'igh. Am I any the wuss for it?"

I thought not.

"Wy," he went on, becoming gently reminiscent, "when I was born my ole muvver took me inter pubs soon as she could get abart—and wot's more, stopped in 'em till she *couldn't* git abart! And wot abart it? I'm all right, ain't I?"

I was enlarging upon my firm trust in his general rectitude when he stopped me.

"Wy, I've smoked ever since I knew, and drunk till I didn't know, and I'm fit, ain't I? Thank Gawd, there wasn't no Children's Bill wen I was a nipper!"

I was venturing a remark, but he was well set, and would not brook interruption.

"Did yer see young Fred wot just got aht? 'Im wiv the pimply fice. 'E's teetotal, 'e is—never 'ad a drop in his life. Wy, 'arf a pint 'ud knock 'im over!"

I exhibited a righteous horror at such a state of affairs, and he continued—triumphant.

"Wot I sez is this, a kid should honour 'is farver and muvver, shouldn't 'e? Well, 'ow can my kiddies honour me when they see me goin' inter plices they ain't allar'd to go inter theirselves! The Bible tells 'em to honour their parents, don't it?—not to look dahn on 'em! Well, that's wot this 'ere Bill does—makes 'em look dahn on us!"

"No child under sixteen allar'd ter smoke, too! Wot d'yer think of it? Just as if fags 'ud 'urt anyone! Gar'n!"

"What's the result, eh? . . . Yer don't know? Then I'll tell yer. Fust of all, kids *will* smoke. If they can't git their fags honest, then they'll git 'em *dis*honest. There y'are, fair and square. They'll git 'em *dis*honest. Then wot I sez is this—the law is incouragin' of 'em to be dishonest. Ain't it right, wot I sez? Wy, my eldest nipper ('e's comin' on nine) will 'e do wivvart 'is smoke? Not 'im! Don't yer believe it. Wot'll 'e do? Wy, instead of stickin' 'is 'ands in 'is pockets, and smokin' the fags 'e's come by honest, as 'appy as a king, 'e'll cadge 'em, steal 'em—wy, 'e'll pick 'em up out of the gutter—but 'e'll 'av 'em right enough. 'Stead of smokin' like a toff in the open street, 'e'll sneak up alleys and under arches ter do it. Wy, it'll be the ruin of 'undreds of 'em, by teachin' 'em sneaky ways."

I nodded my head—it was all he wanted.

"And 'nother thing," he continued, "me and my missus rub along all right most times; of co'rse we 'ave a bit of a shindy sometimes, but nothin' ter mike a song abart. Well, lawst Saturday night we 'ad a fair kick up. And wy? Wy, becos I wanted ter tike the missus to the Ole Bull and Bush, and she wouldn't come wivvart the nippers. There was goin' ter be a bit of a sing-song there, and I wouldn't tike 'em. You mark my words, them nippers 'eard more bad language in that 'alf hour than they'd 'ave 'eard in the Ole Bull and Bush in a 'ole week. And wot 'arm would come to 'em there, I'd like to know! They say kids git a tiste fer drink at pubs. Well, all I know is, wot mine git giv' 'em won't de 'em no 'urt! My ole woman ain't givin' away much wen she's got 'er fist rahnd a 'arf pint, I promise yer! She knows a good thing, wen she's got it. Not 'arf! My kids is lucky if they gits a small lemon and a 'art cake 'atween 'em! . . . Well, good-day, sir, I git aht 'ere. I know I've got the gift of the gab, but I practises wot I preaches!"

I endorsed the truth of his last remark by letting down both windows.


# A Signalman's Wife

## Anæmia, Nervous Exhaustion, Weakness, Loss of Appetite—

The beneficial results of Phosferine are *permanent*—what it cures, it cures for all time, cures as well and thoroughly for a great athlete like C. B. Fry, a famous beauty like Mrs. Una de Louth, as for the weakliest child. However diverse the age or circumstances, Phosferine adjusts, modifies, or intensifies its curative action *to suit all conditions* with unfailing success, and if every mother was as quick to recognise the fact as Mrs. Puxty, a world of trouble would be saved.

## Cured just in time.

Mrs. Puxty, 7, Apsley Cottages, Chatham, writes:—"My little girl was anæmic from her birth, she was never a rosy lively baby like my others, but was always so white and quiet, her appetite was very poor too. When she was between 2 and 3 years old she seemed to be losing her strength fast, she was so very delicate and always looked so white, people used to say that she would not grow up, but being advised to give her Phosferine we decided to try it, and I am thankful to say it did her good, and now, she is, I think, the strongest of the three. In a little time after taking Phosferine we noticed that she took her food better, and she seemed like a new child, her face gained colour, and before she was 3 years old she was lively and strong as the others had been, and she has never gone back again like that, and she is nearly 8 years old now. Since then we have always used Phosferine."—February 15, 1909.

## The Royal Example.

Phosferine is used by the Royal Families of Europe which, in plain language, means that every user of Phosferine knows and feels that this famous Tonic is commended by the greatest living Physicians.

# PHOSFERINE

THE GREATEST OF ALL TONICS.

A PROVEN REMEDY FOR

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Neuralgia | Premature Decay | Sleeplessness |
| Rheumatism | Maternity Weakness | Anæmia |
| Brain-fag | Nervous Headaches | Malaria |
| Indigestion | Lassitude | Neuritis |

and all disorders consequent upon a reduced state of the nervous system.

## The Remedy of Kings.

Phosferine has been supplied by Royal Commands

To the Royal Family
H.I.M. the Empress of Russia
H.M. the Queen of Roumania
H.M. the King of Greece
H.I.M. the Dowager Empress of Russia
The Imperial Family of China
And the Principal Royalty and Aristocracy throughout the World.

PHOSFERINE RE-CREATES THE NERVE FORCES.

Bottles, 1/1½, 2/9, and 4/6. Sold by all Chemists, Stores, &c.

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## A Client starting with £6 makes £4,047.

| Cheques. | Amount. £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| C 21,180 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| 554 | 7 | 2 | 6 |
| C 21,897 | 13 | 10 | 0 |
| C 42,838 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| 1,713 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| 2,469 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| 2,494 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| 2,818 | 26 | 0 | 0 |
| 3,083 | 96 | 15 | 0 |
| 3,670 | 24 | 0 | 0 |
| 3,692 | 64 | 0 | 0 |
| 3,786 | 124 | 10 | 0 |
| 3,845 | 30 | 0 | 0 |
| 3,974 | 106 | 0 | 0 |
| 4,024 | 60 | 0 | 0 |
| 4,072 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| 4,168 | 277 | 10 | 0 |
| 4,605 | 72 | 0 | 0 |
| 4,690 | 141 | 0 | 0 |
| 4,769 | 72 | 0 | 0 |
| 5,177 | 500 | 0 | 0 |
| 2,849 | 12 | 3 | 2 |
| 5,261 | 250 | 0 | 0 |
| 2,880 | 35 | 7 | 0 |
| 5,346 | 250 | 0 | 0 |
| 7,070 | 54 | 0 | 0 |
| 9,185 | 125 | 5 | 0 |
| Carried forward | £2390 | 7 | 8 |

| Cheques. | Amount. £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Brought forward | 2390 | 7 | 8 |
| 5,507 | 242 | 4 | 8 |
| 5,554 | 124 | 0 | 0 |
| 5,608 | 192 | 0 | 0 |
| 6,257 | 12 | 15 | 0 |
| 6,305 | 19 | 0 | 0 |
| 6,371 | 24 | 0 | 0 |
| 6,439 | 8 | 10 | 0 |
| 6,472 | 12 | 0 | 0 |
| 8,089 | 45 | 0 | 0 |
| 8,201 | 175 | 0 | 0 |
| 8,216 | 7 | 2 | 6 |
| 7,716 | 89 | 14 | 0 |
| 7,963 | 36 | 6 | 0 |
| 7,468 | 22 | 0 | 0 |
| 7,516 | 44 | 0 | 0 |
| 7,563 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| 7,587 | 21 | 10 | 0 |
| 7,635 | 52 | 15 | 0 |
| 6,591 | 88 | 10 | 0 |
| 6,650 | 30 | 0 | 0 |
| 6,691 | 202 | 10 | 0 |
| 6,745 | 75 | 15 | 0 |
| 7,198 | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| 7,256 | 16 | 0 | 0 |
| 6,844 | 75 | 10 | 0 |
| 7,034 | 22 | 10 | 0 |
| Total | £4047 | 19 | 10 |

**The above is only one of thousands of successful clients of ours.**

**We will send a List of upwards of 8,000 other Cheques to anyone filling up, cutting out, and sending in the Coupon below.**

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NAME .....
(Rev., Mr., Mrs. or Miss.)

ADDRESS IN FULL.....

.....

## HUMAN DOCUMENT.—XLIV.

*We are receiving so many letters from readers who consider their circumstances warrant an appeal to the public, that we find it necessary to say we can only give publicity in these columns to cases of very exceptional hardship.*

We have received the following appeal. Can any of our readers help?

I am a grocer's assistant, also provision and wine and spirits, and have been out of employment thirteen months, and am unable to obtain employment of any kind. Have been in the trade since I was fourteen years old, and am now thirty-five. I am well up in all branches of the trade. Can take provision or grocery counter, or could manage same. Since being out I have answered and written over 400 letters applying for situations, both in the trade and out, but have not in all had twelve replies, and of those I failed to secure a berth. The usual answer is "*Too old,*" or "I am not looking for a *married man.*" Now, sir, what am I to do? I have most excellent references from my late employer, whom I was two years with. The sole reason for leaving him was, he was reducing his expenses and having his son home in my place. I am not particular what work I do so long as I get a living. I have four little children, the eldest eight years, the youngest ten months. Have applied for caretaker's berth at the Council schools, and have the best of references for same from people of position, such as doctors, clergy, etc., who have known me all my life, but with the same result. Have also made personal application at all factories and nurseries round about here for miles, but always got "no" for an answer. Day after day I walk to and from London, calling at the different firms and all along the docks, but always with the same result, or with the answer, "We will write and let you know."

I have had to part with things out of my home to get food for the children, things that cannot be replaced, such as wedding presents, etc., and I am afraid I shall have to part with all and go in the workhouse if something does not soon turn up. If any of your kind readers could offer me a berth as clerk, shop assistant, or messenger, or *any* employment, I should be deeply grateful for such, and do the utmost to prove myself worthy of the confidence so placed in me. I have had a fair education, and am not afraid of work.

Should you deem my case worthy of your notice, it will remain an everlasting gratitude.

My last situation was with Mr. R. B. Davies, High Street, Ponder's End, to whom I can refer you for references. Also to Mr. C. Stibs, grocer, Ponder's End; Rev. J. L. Boulden, Enfield Highway; Rev. A. Blackmore, Derby Road, Ponder's End; Dr. W. P. Warren, Enfield Highway; Mr. W. Newman, Westfield House, Derby Road, Ponder's End; J. J. Wilson, Esq., "The Suffolks," Enfield Highway; Mr. S. P. Lyne, baker, Enfield Highway, and many others.

## "THE GAS LIGHT AND COKE COMPANY."

### How a Customer Dealt With It.

We have received the following letter from a reader:—

In reference to your article on the Gas Light and Coke Company and its customers' deposits, may I draw your attention to a paragraph in the agreement which is put before the customers, which is to the effect that interest shall be paid by the Gas Light and Coke Company on all deposits made by the customer?

A friend of mine, happening to discover this clause, made a demand upon the Gas Light and Coke Company for 5 per cent. on the amount he handed them as a deposit. This, as you can well imagine, was a very small amount. Then, again my friend noticed that the amount was to be paid quarterly and to him personally, as it necessitated a receipt from the person entitled to receive it. When the collector first called he was not at home to receive the money, nor was he at home on the second or third occasion; the result being that after numerous calls, and chasing him about the neighbourhood, the collector at last found him, and delivered to him the small interest due upon the deposit. This occurred not once nor twice, and has caused the Gas Company such annoyance that they have begged him to receive the deposit back rather than be bothered further, which my friend refuses to do.

May I suggest that this might be of interest to other customers of the Gas Light and Coke Company who perhaps have not noticed that they are entitled to the interest on their deposit, which is to be paid quarterly, and to the person entitled to receive it. It strikes me that if two or three hundred of their customers took the same trouble as my friend did, that the Gas Company will be extremely glad to drop this impost. Anyway, I make this suggestion for what it is worth.

EVERY : PIPE : SMOKER : OF EXPERIENCE knows that the tobacco he wants must have these three qualities—***coolness, aroma,*** and that subtle property one terms ***flavour,*** for lack of a better description. Otherwise it will not do. Of the three, ***coolness*** is least often found. Yet it is essential, for a man cannot burn his tongue and please his palate. In

**Chairman**

the three are found in combination. It is a fine mixture that yields a lasting pleasure to the votary of the pipe—always fragrant, always pleasing, cool to the last shred.

It is of medium strength and suits most men's requirements.

**Boardman's**

is the same tobacco milder, and

**Recorder**

the same but fuller flavoured.

Sold by tobacconists at 6d. per oz., and in quarter and half-pound tins.

In case of difficulty write to—

**R. J. LEA, Manchester.**

U4

# THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. CLEMENT SCOTT.

## "LOVE WATCHES."

Who, having had the privilege to see "L'Amour Veille," by Robert de Flerks and Armand Caillavet, at the Comédie Française in Paris, with such artistes as Mesdames Leconte, Blanche Pierson and Cécile Sorel as Jacqueline, the Marquise de Juvigny and Lucie de Morfontaine in the principal female characters, could possibly conceive such a transformation into English of amateur absurdity as "Love Watches," now being presented at the Haymarket Theatre?

Poor Miss Billie Burke! What a pitiful sight to see so promising a young actress, as she undoubtedly was when playing under the valuable stage managership of Charles Hawtrey in "Mrs. Ponderbury's Past" at the Vaudeville Theatre, tearing hither and thither about the stage with frenzied gestures, ever restless and jerky in her movements, making all that was so sweet and natural in the French play tawdry and ineffective; all that was tender and true appear idiotic and foolish.

But perhaps it is not so much the fault of Miss Burke as it is of the translation, that so much of the French authors' meaning has been entirely eliminated from their exquisite little comedy—even the very title, "L'Amour Veille," has been so clumsily translated into "Love Watches," that you are almost prepared for the wretchedly anæmic, consumptive four acts of bathos that follow.

In any case, Miss Burke requires what journalists call a "deal of editing," and her performance in "Love Watches" is not likely to assist her reputation as an actress.

Surely the announcement on the programme that "Love Watches" was originally produced at the "Comédie Français," minus the "e" to Français, is a printer's error—it must be.

## "THE MAN IN THE IRON MASK."

It is all very well to say history states that this is right and that is wrong, but what on earth does it matter so long as the public says, "You be bothered for a tale, 'The Prisoner of the Bastille' is good enough for us; we like the exciting drama and we don't care a hang about anything else. It is good straight sailing from the first, and we can understand it without any *interpretatio* in the margin"?

Mr. Norman Forbes, who has revised and re-named his work, is responsible for the latest Lyceum success, produced by Mr. Ernest Carpenter, and as I sat in my stall next but one to Ellen Terry, I wondered if she was thinking the same as I did, and that it would have improved the play vastly if Louise de la Vallière, the frail, ethereal, timid and modest lady-in-waiting, of Anne of Austria's court, had not been forced into the painful position of having to be the mistress of two men.

Louise de la Vallière was afflicted with lameness—an infirmity which might have changed the King's passion for her into indifference and so obviated the unnecessary jarring element that is so apparent when "The Prisoner of the Bastille" returns after seven years to take Louise to his heart once more.

Matheson Lang's double performance of King Louis and his twin brother, "The Man in the Iron Mask," appeals enthusiastically to the Lyceum audiences, his fine voice and excellent elocution being used to the greatest possible advantage.

Mr. Frederick Ross plays delightfully the sympathetic part of the Bishop d'Herblay—a character, by the way, that, if I am not mistaken, appears in Dumas' "Three Musketeers," in his earlier days during the reign of Louis XIII., as our young friend Aramis. Don't you remember him—the gallant "one of three," who talks so frequently of retiring into a monastery? Well, the good Bishop d'Herblay and Aramis are one and the same man.

As Louise de la Vallière, Miss Dorothy Thomas is girlish and natural, and Mr. Eric Mayne looks the handsome villain St. Mars to the life.

The only incident Mr. Norman Forbes might do away with—having had recourse to so much imagination, and so little that is really history—is, as I said before, the wholly unnecessary position of Louise, which could quite easily be dispensed with, and then "The Prisoner of the Bastille" would really be a first-rate and wholesome melodrama.


EVERY WOMAN KNOWS

she ought to have an ONOTO PEN—the safe ready-to-write fountain pen most men carry.

It is easy to write with, safe and clean to use—the pen that FILLS itself from any ink supply and CANNOT LEAK—that cleans itself in filling.

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Self-Filling Safety Fountain

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British made by British labour.

Booklet about the Onoto Pen free on application to Thos. De La Rue & Co., Ltd. 339 Bunhill Row, E.C.

IMPORTANT—For those who require a larger pen with a very flexible nib, a special model—the new G, has this year been put on the market. It is exceptional value for the money. Try this new G at your stationers.
Also ask him for Onoto Ink—the best for fountain and all other pens.

## JOHN BULL'S WOMENFOLK.

By Mrs. Bull.

### Fascinating Evening Frocks.

The main feature of evening dresses this season is the grace and elegance given by the long sweeping folds and draperies. Some of the best gowns have practically no trimming or intricacies of design, owing all their style and charm to the exquisite folds into which the supple material is draped. Such a one, of pale blue ottoman silk, had an over-tunic sloping up from the hem at the right foot to the back of the waist. The border was edged with raised laurel leaves in dull gold, while a gold buckle on the left hip caught the material into gloriously artistic folds. The silk of the bodice followed the same idea—coming up in folds from under the right side of the bust to the left shoulder. Beneath it was a dainty bodice of silky white net bordered and spotted with gold. The Greek sleeves were of this net, caught across the bare arms at intervals. A perfect pet of a gown was of palest yellow satin, the skirt opening down the left side under a row of tiny diamond buttons with silver loops. The lower edge of the high corsage was cut out into Charles I. tabs, and overhung a belt of folded silver tissue. The bodice was elaborately—no such elaboration is considered too much nowadays—embroidered in silver, into which was introduced the faintest touch of pale blue. On the hair was worn a garland of forget-me-nots and yellow roses, held together by silver ribbon and a diamond clasp. A remarkably *chic* model was of light green silk. Over each hip came a fall of tulle edged with pale pink passementerie. This tulle was tied in a big loose knot on a level with the knees, thus giving something of a pannier effect. The little bodice was a simple cross-over, the V-space being filled with finely-rucked black tulle, while an exquisitely embroidered spray of pink roses and buds decorated both sides of the bodice. The loose light sleeves of palest green tulle were cut away at intervals to show a tight-fitting under-sleeve of rucked black chiffon.

### A Few Words about Hats.

Black crinoline hats are much to the fore this spring. There is smartness combined with refinement about a black *chapeau* that is hard to beat. The popular fancy of the moment is to trim them simply by a wreath of green leaves, without any floral addition whatsoever. Tiny rose-leaves make quite an efficient trimming all by themselves—the green grey of the olive-leaf is novel enough to stand alone, while wreaths of ivy are permitted to bear their own small brown berries. Leghorn hats are this season—as they have been in the past, and ever will be—almost a necessary addition to a smart young woman's wardrobe. Simplicity should be the key-note for the trimming of Leghorns; just a plume, or a wreath of flowers and a little lace or ribbon. Ribbon is being charmingly arranged this year. Sometimes one long streamer comes from the left side, and either hangs loosely or is fastened on the breast beneath a cluster of flowers. Sometimes strings meet at the back of the hat and there tie in a careless-looking bow, falling to below the wearer's shoulders; or one big loop can be fixed on under the brim, through which the face is slipped after the manner of a child's elastic. Sometimes the strings are of lace or daintily edged white muslin, or even coloured tulle or chiffon. Those absurd objects called bee-hive hats will probably not have much of an innings—not so much by reason of their absurdity, as that they are far from becoming to most faces. Fruit as a millinery decoration was considerably worn last year, it will be remembered, and apparently its attractions are not yet exhausted. Currants are really charming with their graceful clusters and ruby or golden clearness, and cherries are delightful for brunettes. Strawberries look clumpish and heavy—even the best of them—while plums, with a delicious delicate bloom on their cheeks that makes one's mouth water, are more amusing than artistic. In Paris there is a passing rage for trimming hats with vegetables—velvet carrots being first favourites.

### A Remarkable Meal.

I should think that the dinner given by the Acclimatisation Society of Great Britain on July 12th, 1862, still lives in the memory of every *convive* who was present and who still inhabits this mortal sphere. I have seen the menu framed in the study of an old gentleman who licked his lips at the very recollection. There was a choice of ten soups, including birds'-nest soup from China and "Bèche de mer" from Japan. Six kinds of fish; eight *entrées*, one of which was kangaroo steamer from Tasmania. The nine *relevés* included Chinese lamb, kangaroo ham, Spanish wild boar ham. The *rôts*—twelve of them—had amongst them Syrian pig, dusky ducks and Brent geese from Holland. The most quaint accompanying vegetable was Chinese yam. Of the eleven *entremets*, my curiosity would have led me to select seaweed jelly from Queensland. Then followed *hors d'œuvres*—*relevés des rôts*—ices and dessert, in which came such queer things as bibas, preserved cassareep, meat biscuits and rosella jelly from Queensland; while there was a choice of thirty-six different wines with the most atractive names imaginable.


# What is Your Number?

**See page iii. of cover.**



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**TO THE PUBLIC.** ***May 18th,* 1909.**

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**Both the industry and the market are now on a sound foundation!**

**We believe the time has now arrived when money can be made by the judicious purchase of "Dividend payers"!**

**There may be an occasional "set back," but the trend is upwards!!**

**Call, write, or wire for our advice as to the best selection to buy.**

H. St. John Oliver & Co.

# Cyclists—Save Yourselves Time and Trouble.

**ANOTHER SUNBEAM IMPROVEMENT.**

**The Little Oil Bath Gear Case has for many years saved the riders of Sunbeams the necessity of Cleaning or oiling their Gears or Driving Bearings.**

**Next to this kind of work the most troublesome thing about the Bicycle of late years has been trying to clean plated rims. This work has been done away with on 1909 Sunbeams. These patterns are all fitted with the Roman White Metal Rims.**

**They are made of an alloy of Aluminium—Light—Strong—and the same colour of nickel all through. The action of the rim brake upon these Rims is to polish the Metal, not to discolour it. So the 1909 Sunbeam both keeps Clean and Oils its own Driving Bearings and polishes its own Rims.**

**J. Marston, Ltd.—21 Sunbeamland—Wolverhampton—send the 1909 Sunbeam Cycle List free on application.**

## "CANADIAN EMIGRANTS, BEWARE!"

### WHAT THEY SAY IN CANADA.

We have received a letter from a reader in Hamilton, Ontario, calling our attention to an article which we publish below, because it seems to us that it gives facts that ought to be widely known in this country about the prospects of emigrants in Canada. We are sometimes told that we are unsympathetic, and even hostile, to our Colonies, but that is far from the case. We have never been able to associate ourselves with those who dream about the possibilities of Imperial Federation, nor do we believe in Mr. Chamberlain's theories of Imperial Union; but no one recognises more fully than we do the desirability of cordial relations between Mother Country and Colonies, and of peopling the wilds of Canada and Australia, as far as possible, with men of British birth. But we want the young men and women who leave this country for Canada and elsewhere, to understand what they are going to.

The article referred to by our correspondent appears in the *Hamilton Herald*, and runs as follows:—

> Much has been written in protest against the cruelty of the methods of immigration agencies. The sole aim of some agencies appears to be to get immigrants out of their native countries or into Canada. A callous disregard for the welfare of the poor immigrants themselves is too often manifested. The presentation of a single concrete case is more forceful than columns of general protest based on statistical and other information. We present such a case below in a letter written by an immigrant now living in Hamilton. This man is a skilled mechanic, industrious, temperate and honest. The *Herald* vouches for him. He was doing fairly well at his trade in England, but was induced by an immigration agency to take his family to Canada, having been told that he would be sure to do far better in this country than he ever could do in England. The story of his experience justifies the protests recently made by Mr. Studholme in the Legislature against the granting of financial aid to immigration agencies which are bringing out to Canada thousands of men to compete for employment with the thousands who already find it hard enough to get work to do. The following is an extract from the letter referred to:—
>
> "When we sailed from London we were given to understand that when we got to the place where we were sent Beamsville, Ontario, there would be an agent to receive us, We landed at Beamsville on July 9th, 1907, at 9 o'clock at night. There was no agent to be found. I, my wife, and our two little ones walked a mile and a half to the agent's office, and got there at 11 o'clock. The agent was not there. I did not know what to do for a lodging for my wife and children. I had to pay two dollars for one night's lodging—one bed for four of us, and a little breakfast. We came out on the Sunday morning. The children had no boots on, and were without a wash. We had to sit outside of a church at Beamsville to put the children's boots on and wash them the best way we could. We went down to the Beamsville station again. I saw some fellows in a G.T.R. car and asked them to sell me a pot of tea. They were good to us. They gave us three good meals. On the Sunday night we came up town again. I went to see if the agent was there. No. I went to Mr. Tufford, a policeman in the town, and he made us up a bed in the town hall on forms. Monday morning we got up a bit stiff; you can guess how it is to lie on wood after lying on a feather bed in the old country. I found the agent at last, and told him how I had been served. He said he couldn't help it, and asked, "Will you go on a farm?" I said, "Yes, I'll take anything." So he sent me, my wife and two little ones twenty-four miles. When we got there I found that the man had been suited a month before we came out, so we had to walk back again. That is how the immigration officers serve poor English people. I was in Beamsville two months and could not get any work, so I walked twenty-two miles to Hamilton, got a bit of a job, and then sent for the wife and children. I have been out of work since last September. I think they ought to try and stop the people coming to this country. If I had a chance I would go back. Since I have been in this country I have done nine months' work. Since coming to Hamilton my wife, my little ones and myself have been without food three days at a time."

It will be seen from the comments of our Canadian contemporary that our view of this emigration question is the same as its own, and as the *Hamilton Herald* is a highly respectable journal, circulating in Ontario, its comments are a sufficient answer to the charge that we traduce Canada when referring to the outlook for emigrants to that country.


# Smokers, to Arms!

# 10 for 2½d.

A Cigarette manufactured under ideal conditions from selected fuller flavoured and heavier leaves of the same famous choice 1904 crop of finest Virginia Tobacco as the Black Cat Mild Cigarettes.

These Cigarettes, whilst actually being longer than the ordinary 10 for 2½d. Cigarettes now being sold at 3d., are just as thick. Whilst they are smaller than the renowned Black Cat Mild Cigarettes, the same delightful aroma is retained, with a fuller flavour.

Try a packet to-day and convince yourself.

*Black Cat Mild Cigarettes*

*(a milder and larger Cigarette than the Medium)*

*10 for 3d.*

*None better at any price.*

Of all Tobacconists, or from CARRERAS, Ltd., 7 Wardour Street, London, W.

# Black Cat MEDIUM Cigarettes

## BULL'S EYES.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION:—
Holbein or not all buyin'?
Will the Admiralty save its Bacon?
Won't the Licensing Trade try to "do" its duty?
Why doesn't the L.C.C. start a stud farm?
Is "wailing" how Grimsby spells it now?
Why not make Keir Hardie Permanent Viceroy of India?
Wouldn't "mysterious scareship" be a better description?
Will the Government spell it "b-i-e-r" soon?
Wasn't a skating rink the best place for the Women's Exhibition?
Why is England so short of horses when mare's nests are so abundant?
How many new workhouses do the Poplar Socialists propose to erect?
Why introduce another Hops Bill when the brewers have the "jumps" already?

"Why did Consols rise?" asks a morning paper. To be in the fashion, possibly.

"You can always lead a boy," a correspondent remarks. Into mischief.

"Bibles in Flames," says a headline. Burning words.

The Prison Commissioners for Scotland consider that fine weather causes law-breaking. "Fine" weather, in fact.

Vivid blue is the prevailing colour in the newly-decorated Savoy Theatre. We trust the audiences will not match.

Speaking of the Stepney pageant, the *Express* says, "It is acted by children from twenty-one schools in Stepney, in double shifts." We are glad they were double.

The fact that two Government Departments are economising in the matter of daylight must not be regarded too hopefully. Daylight costs nothing.

"A Noisy Budget" is how a contemporary describes it. Certainly it is making a row.

"Husbands are like Christmas Gifts," says a writer. But it is wives we get in stockings.

"Death Penalty for Marriage," reads an *Express* heading. We thought it was only a life sentence.

"In a Mirror," a little musical episode at the Palace Theatre, ought to give one pleasant reflections.

Colonel Cody has accomplished a moonlight flight. So have thousands of other people, but without bragging about it.

"An Honest Man," is the title of a new book. We congratulate the author on his power of imagination.

Mr. Patten, the Wheat King, is said to take an intense interest in religious movements. Does this mean that he likes to bring his opponents to their knees?

A contemporary says that "the Suffragette face" is becoming "more common." Rough on Christabel.

"Love in a Mist," we read. Nothing new.

There is no truth in the rumour that, in consequence of the rise in the price of biscuits, our free distribution will be discontinued.

The Paris postal strike is a blow which pierces the French Government through its mail.

"Are Actors Rogues?" asks a morning paper. We don't know, but some of them do act abominably.

"You have been gassing," Mr. Justice Ridley told a barrister lately; and then the legal light was put out.


**After Shaving.**

ICILMA FLUOR CREAM is the only rational cream to use after shaving, because it is so soothing and comforting that it immediately removes any soreness and irritation which shaving is apt to cause. Used overnight, it makes the morning shave surprisingly easy.

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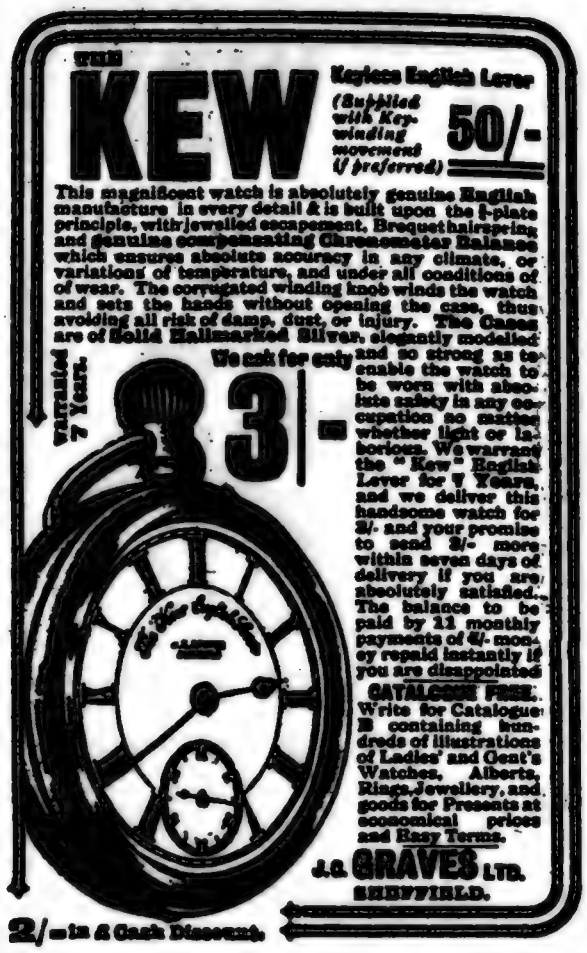
THE
KEW
Keyless English Lever
(Supplied with Key-winding movement if preferred)
50/-
This magnificent watch is absolutely genuine English manufacture in every detail & is built upon the ¾-plate principle, with jewelled escapement. Breguet hairspring and genuine compensating Chronometer Balance which ensures absolute accuracy in any climate, or variations of temperature, and under all conditions of wear. The corrugated winding knob winds the watch and sets the hands without opening the case, thus avoiding all risk of damp, dust, or injury. The Cases are of Solid Hallmarked Silver, elegantly modelled and so strong as to enable the watch to be worn with absolute safety in any occupation no matter whether light or laborious. We warrant the "Kew" English Lever for 7 Years, and we deliver this handsome watch for 3/- and your promise to send 3/- more within seven days of delivery if you are absolutely satisfied. The balance to be paid by 11 monthly payments of 4/- money repaid instantly if you are disappointed
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J.G. GRAVES LTD.
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**Pure, Wholesome and Beneficial.**

Approved and recommended by the British Analytical Control.—Feb. 1909.

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Inlaid **Sheraton Style Suite**, comprising Wardrobe with bevelled glass door, Dressing Chest, with bevelled glass attached and two drawers in the underpart, Marble Top Washstand with pedestal cupboard, and towel rails attached, and two Chairs.

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of Southampton Row, Holborn, London, W.C., have on show the finest reproductions of Chippendale, Sheraton, Heppelwhite, and all the wonderful English and French old masters; also William and Mary, Queen Anne, Georgian, and all styles and periods.

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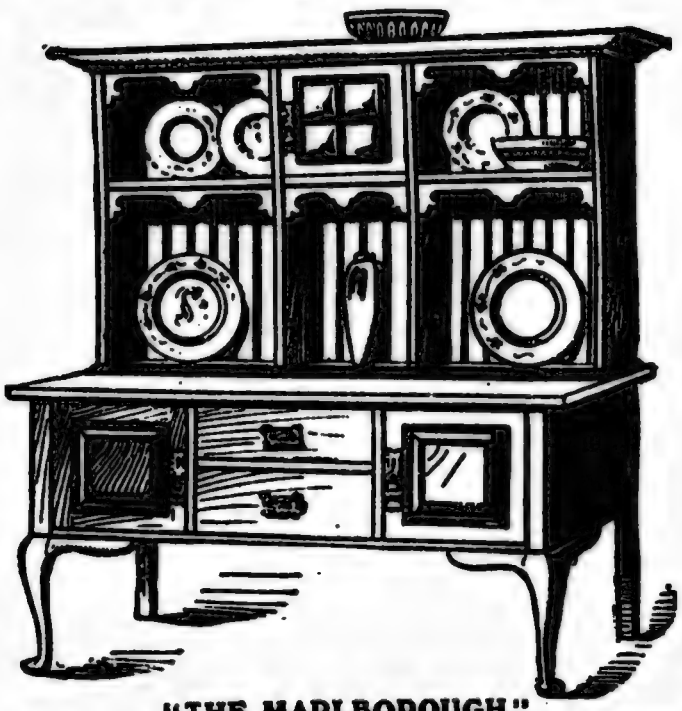
For quality and value we compare more than favourably with any house in the Trade.

OUR "1909" GUIDE AND CATALOGUE, which is sent post free on request, will give Country Customers an ample range of selection, although we pay fares to town on all orders of £30 worth and upwards.

Write for our New Illustrated Catalogue. This book will be found to illustrate how, at the smallest possible outlay, art and effectiveness may be imparted to any home. It is invaluable to all those about to furnish. It will be sent together with all particulars of our Gradual Payment System post free on application.



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Handsome and well-made Dresser Sideboard, in fumed oak. This Dresser is in the Queen Anne Style.

Price **£7 : 17 : 6**

Country Customers' fares to town paid on all orders of £30 worth and upwards.

Country orders are packed and delivered free. Carpets and linos are planned and laid free. Should you not wish to pay cash you can have your payments extended over one, two, three, or more years without one halfpenny extra charge. Neither is any deposit asked for or required. Should you prefer to pay cash 5 per cent. discount is allowed.

Our Premises are six doors from the Holborn Restaurant and the Holborn Station of the Great Northern, Piccadilly and Brompton Railway, one minute from the Museum Station of the Central London Railway, and two minutes from Oxford Street. 'Busses from all parts pass the door or along Holborn every few seconds.

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**Business Hours 9 to 8. Saturdays 9 to 6. Thursdays we do NOT close early.**

**An interesting hour may be spent looking through our Showrooms. You will not be pressed to buy.**

## The MIDLAND FURNISHING Co., Ltd.,

## 17, 19, 21 & 23, Southampton Row, Holborn, London, W.C.

## JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[THE EDITOR *replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

*NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?*

*CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to—such as whether it related to a legal, financial, insurance, publishing, or general enquiry.*

SPECIAL NOTICE.—*Owing to the great increase in the number of* ENQUIRIES *received, consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag." The Editor will, however, in special cases, endeavour to reply by post to those correspondents who forward a stamped addressed envelope. When answers already standing in type have been published,* ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will appear. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc., which will be duly acknowledged in these columns.*

*AUTHORS and artists submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write names and addresses upon the back of their work. The Editor can accept no responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* **when stamps have been enclosed in payment of postage.**

"LIBERAL" (Newgate Street).—The National Debt has been reduced since the present Government came into office. For the last two completed years of Conservative rule (1904 and 1905) the figures were £8,149,000 and £7,557,000; for 1906 (partly Conservative and partly Liberal), £11,852,000; and for 1907 and 1908, £13,714,000 and £18,029,000 respectively.

L. C. (London).—We do not recall any case in recent years in which a Budget has been rejected by the Peers.

C. W. W. (Fulham) thinks it strange that the wife of a British Prime Minister should lend her house to the display of foreign goods. But then these were ladies' dresses!

A VANCOUVER paper states that "Dan's Harbor" is "fully 80 miles, as the crow flies, from Prince Rupert. To arrive at the site overland however, it would be necessary to travel some 14 miles or more." A correspondent, who sent us this gem, exclaims: "That crow must have been loaded for bear before it started out—and they say there is no liquor in Prince Rupert. Was Jim Crow ever in this neighbourhood? Perhaps he carries a flask!!!" At any rate, by the time he had flown 80 miles he must have become a *bona-fide* traveller. But what the dickens is the meaning of 'loaded for bear"? It sounds like a financial operation.

J. D. D. (Highbury) says Catholics have no quarrel with the Coronation Oath, but what they do object to is the Declaration which the Sovereign makes when he meets Parliament for the first time, in which he is called upon to assert that the doctrines of the Catholic Church are 'superstitious and idolatrous," etc. We quite agree with J. D. D.'s protest against this insult to a large section of the King's subjects.

"CELA" (Glasgow).—We adhere to our advice.

"SPORT" (Sunderland) calls our attention to the activity of the local police in harassing small bookmakers and to the immunity from molestation which burglars are enjoying.

G. S. (Curragh Camp) wishes us to tell him whether it is a fact that there is any warmth in ice. So far, we have not noticed it.

A. J. T. (Canonbury).—As the appeal of the Whitechapel men was unsuccessful, nothing more need be said.

'BULL-DOG" sends Jim Crow a postcard depicting a forest of chimneys and a dense cloud of smoke, labelled "Beautiful Birmingham." He writes, "Rejoice with me that this is not the town of our birth." Jim does.

"FAIRPLAY" (Aberdeen) missed Crow's "literary effusion" greatly. There is no accounting for tastes.

F. S. (Nottingham) calls our attention to the complaint at a vestry meeting in the town at the high price (viz., £8) paid to the organ blower. He points out that, taking the services throughout the year, the time occupied is 544 hours, which works out at 3½d. per hour. How does this compare with the salary of the vicar?

R. R. R. (London) advises our Editor to go to South America and secure "old Castro's job." But he has bigger fish than that to fry.

F. H. T. (Forest Gate) complains that, when an out-patient cannot attend at the Charing Cross Hospital, a repeat dose is refused to a sister or mother.

G. L. (Cork) was fined 1d. and 6d. costs for delaying to take out his dog licence. He must be more careful next year. We think he got off cheaply.

J. H. G. (Enfield) was described in a local paper as "the deceased," but informs us he is yet alive. Long may he remain so, as the tipsy politician said when toasting the Unemployed.

J. G. (Woodbridge) writes: "Mr. Crow on Birmingham was delightful. Might he not try Edinburgh presently? But for cowardice and immorality you really cannot find any race to equal the Cornish. Of course all counties are immoral: they would be dull if they were not. But with cowardice and sham Sabbatarianism added, the result is rather depressing. The Cornishman should follow the example of his language and become extinct. Do send Crow to Cornwall. If he is not a Cornishman, I do not wish to insult him. If he is one, it would be impossible." Crow, opening his brown Cornish eyes very wide, felt his Cornish blood tingle in his veins. But presently he read on and found the explanation of this tirade: "What an odd circumstance that the next door county, Devon, should be so admirable in every way, is it not? *I am a Devon man myself.* Some day we shall cross the Tamar, a few dozen of us, and exterminate all those vermin who live West of it." Crow begs to point out to J. G. that the Devil never ventured across the Tamar lest he should be put into a pasty.

**OATINE for Men after Shaving.**

It has been said that a man's temperament day by day depends upon the condition of his razor. This may be, or may not be so, but the condition of his face after shaving certainly depends on the razor, and it is a fact that never mind how fine a condition the razor may be in, the after effect of shaving is a soreness and chapping of lips and face. This unfortunately cannot be avoided, but it can be minimised to such an extent that it is hardly noticeable by the use of good shaving soap such as either the Oatine Shaving Cream (in tubes) or the Oatine Shaving Stick, both of which are British made and most carefully prepared for the purpose, the cream giving a heavy, and the stick a lighter, close-lying lather, but being alike in this, that both give a free, smooth, lasting and agreeable lather that will not dry on the face. If you have not tried either of the Oatine Soaps for shaving do so without delay.

To relieve the irritation caused by shaving there is nothing so effective as Oatine Cream, which possesses special healing properties; it should be applied immediately after shaving and should be gently rubbed into the skin, or, better still, rubbed into the beard over night or before the morning shave, this has the effect of softening the beard in a most astonishing manner, rendering shaving far easier and simpler than it is in the ordinary way.

**FREE SAMPLES**

of Oatine Cream and Oatine Soap will be sent to all applicants together with a copy of our Booklet; or send 3d. for a box containing samples of eight different preparations.

**The Oatine Co., 270, Denman Street, London, S.E.**

**Going Away for Whitsuntide?**

Wherever it is—coast, country or Continent—you will want something smart and seasonable to wear. Why not have your last season's suit smartened up and save the expense of new clothes? We can make it almost as good as when it was new by dry cleaning and careful pressing without injury to the material in any way, and our charge for a complete suit is only 3/9. If you send your order now we can complete it before the holidays begin. Later on we may not be able to guarantee delivery by a fixed date. Write to-day for our catalogue and address of nearest branch or Agency, or send the parcel direct to address below. We pay carriage one way.

**Achille Serre, Ltd.**

(*Nettoyage à Sec*),

**HACKNEY WICK, LONDON, E.**

(Phone 1265 East.)

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# MONEY IS MADE

by Banks and Insurance Companies out of their Investments. Look at the Balance Sheet of any such concern, and you will see what income they enjoy from their INVESTMENTS. They don't have money lying idle; if they did, how would they earn huge dividends on their CAPITAL?

# MONEY

is more likely to be lost if you have it lying idle at your command than if it were safely invested. Some enticing proposition comes along, the money is there, you go in—and frequently lose the entire amount. Now supposing your money were locked up in SOUND INVESTMENTS, you would say, "No, I have no loose cash at the moment." That money would surely be saved.

All Stock Exchange orders are guaranteed to be executed only through **members** of the highest standing, whose **original contracts** will be sent by request; thus ensuring to clients not only **absolute safety,** but proving the fact that **no** extra charges are made whatsoever for our advice, guarantee and services. Write to-day, and we will tell you how to invest your money—**you are at liberty to do the business where you like.**

The British Bank of Commerce is the only Bank whose Guarantee-Deposit-Certificates are **absolutely secured by Government Bonds,** which, besides paying **fair interests QUARTERLY,** can be turned into **Cash** at any moment, or on which temporary advances are made at from 3% p.a. Details on application.

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Stock Exchange Departments.

Cablegrams and Telegrams: "ISLERATOR, LONDON."
Codes: B.B.C. Private and Liebers.

O. S. (New Barnet) says that Canadians announce that "No British need apply," because Italians and Germans are cheaper. The Patriots!

H. D. (Wood Green) is dissatisfied with an auctioneer named McCowan, and wants to find him and make him take back some watches. Did H. D. really expect three gold watches for 22s.?

F. S. W. (Manchester).—"Found guilty by a judy" was an injudicious misprint.

H. B. (Newport).—A dentist under the heading "Musical" sounds a bit vicarious.

F. G. (Upper Norwood) sends particulars of grossly incompetent surgery at St. Bartholomew's Hospital relieved in two hours by a bone-setter. We have small faith in hospitals, but every bone-setter is not infallable.

"INQUIRER" (Chelmsford).—How came you to read the *Daily News*? We scarcely thought it was a man's paper.

J. M. R. (Leytonstone).—Jim Crow would not mind the "use of plain old-fashioned thatched cottage," but he declines to "assist with cows." Cows, indeed!

T. W. D. (Sheffield).—Yes, but an "average comedian" is not very comic.

"CURIOUS" (Battersea) wants to know how the Latchmere Cycle Company can retyre prams and mail-carts free of charge; also how they can replate and enamel cycles throughout for £1. We never heard of complaints against firms for charging too little.

A. W. (Yeovil).—"Docile and handsome as a lady going to a ball" is a pretty way of describing a piebald pony in an advertisement.

"AN ADMIRER" says it is 20 years too late to turn London into a satisfactory port.

"BACHELOR" wants to know whether the *Matrimonial Times* is carried on in a straightforward way. We don't.

A. A. (Manchester) wants information about J. Atkinson and Co., manufacturers of proprietary articles, 5, Stanley Road, High Street, Stratford, E. His own dealings with them were unsatisfactory.

R. H. F. (Leytonstone) wants to know of a good coach for the Civil Service, the Customs for choice.

C. B. (Sevenoaks) wants an explanation of "(*sic*)." He will find the word in his Latin dictionary, but he may add a k if he likes.

R. H. (Sheffield) writes: "Will you please tell me through your valueable paper if the funds of the Tariff Reform League is coming from American capitalests and oblige." Yes, unless they is coming from Sheffield.

"MASS" (Cardiff) had an operation to his nose last August, and now wants to know what can be done for his eyes, which are weak and burning. He might have his ears pierced.

"MAC" (Atherstone).—Nothing appears in these pages without the sanction of the Editor, but he does not of course necessarily adopt the opinions expressed in signed articles.

"JACK STRAP" complains that firemen are kept out of employment to make way for pensioners.

S. A. (Bayswater).—Yes, it does not say much for the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children that, "of cases reported to the Society, 7,050 have ended in the death of the child." Which child?

L. M. (Bristol) wanted us to give a prize to people who carry JOHN BULL at the Crystal Palace, and are heard by our emissaries exclaiming: "It's *right*. I know it. It's a fact. How do you know? Because it's in JOHN BULL." But was it?

H. B. C. (Herne Hill).—We have not the faintest notion "why the 4th Hussars are for home next trooping season, whilst 8th Lancers, who left England before the 4th, are to remain another two years in South Africa."

G. E. P. (Tunbridge Wells) wants us to publish winning numbers in advance. But who would sell a guinea copy for a penny?

"LECTOR" (Sunderland) received filthy circulars after announcing the birth of a son. It is difficult to know how to stop this nuisance.

A. J. W. (Manchester) sends a leaflet issued by a firm which gives 1d. to the unemployed for every gas mantle sold for 6d. Even if they do cost 18s. a gross, we do not see where the "meanness" comes in.

E. P. (South Tottenham) thinks passengers on the Underground should be allowed to break a journey without taking a second ticket. We agree that, when a letter is wrongly delivered, the recipient ought to be obliged to return it to the Post Office, but we do not agree that illegible writing is "no fault of sender." We suffer too much from it ourselves.

T. F. (Exeter) says there is no excuse for the church bell nuisance now that clocks are cheap. He asks us to "suppose every tradesman was to ring big bells to announce 'My shop is now open—walk in.'" What a horrid idea!

J. C. (Woking) has mandrakes growing in his garden, and wants to know if they are usual in this country. He also asks for particulars of superstitions concerning the "insane root." He knows about the screams it is said to emit when pulled up. He has also read Mrs. Campbell Praed's book on the subject.


**MATRIMONIAL TIMES.**

The Best and Quickest Introductory Medium for all desiring a Matrimonial Alliance. In sealed envelope, 6d.—Editor, Room 12, 5, Featherstone Buildings, Holborn London, W.C. Telegrams, "Amatorem, London."

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Mutual Insurance Society, Ltd. (Founded 1861.)

**FIRE, LIFE, HOUSE PURCHASE.**

Claims Paid Exceed £5,000,000. Yearly Income Exceeds £1,000,000

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You are adding considerably to the value of your tooth-cleaning by first dipping the brush into a tin of

**Calvert's Tooth Powder**

Price 6d., 1/-, 1/6 & 2/-. If you prefer to sprinkle the Powder on to the tooth brush, ask for our new package—a glass jar with sprinkler top, 1/- nett. For trial sample send a penny stamp to F. C. Calvert & Co. (JB Dept.), Manchester

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PROFESSOR HENRY DUBOIS HAIR-DRESSING FLUID, made from the receipt of a famous Parisian Hair Specialist,

RESTORES GREY HAIR to a NATURAL COLOUR

in a natural manner and

NEVER FAILS.

IT IS NOT A DYE.

Large Bottles price 2/6 each, sent in plain sealed wrapper.

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We'ght only three ounces—no body rubbing—no understrap—self-adjusting—always clean and comfortable.

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Sufferers from rupture will appreciate this comfortable hygienic truss. Its construction is extremely simple—a small ivorine pad gives pressure only where needed, a soft washable belt holds this in position, and a very simple device maintains an even pressure and allows perfect freedom of movement. It is practically indestructible and washable throughout.

If your chemist has not got the Offord Hygienic Truss in stock, write to us mentioning his name and we will arrange for you to have a Free Trial.

FREE TRIAL.

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give longer credit—and offer far easier payment terms than anyone else.

Remember—I sell brand new 1909 model SWIFT NUMBER, COVENTRY-CHALLENGE, TRIUMPH, PREMIER, PROGRESS, ROVER, CENTAUR, QUADRANT and SINGER cycles at Pounds below Makers and Agents' prices. RUDGE-WHITWORTHS, from £3 15s. cash.

High-grade Coventry-made Cycles from £3 10s. cash, or 5/- monthly

A small deposit only has to be paid before the machine is despatched to you on approval.

WRITE FOR LISTS.

12 Years' Guarantee

Edw. O'Brien, Ltd.

THE WORLD'S LARGEST CYCLE DEALER (Dept. 190), Coventry.

No More Motor Cars! I'll buy a Bike from

As many provincial readers of this paper complained of having read the advertisement in last issue too late to subscribe, we repeat herewith our offer positively for the last time. The transactions will be opened at the London closing price of Saturday, the 22nd of May.

## THIS ADVERTISEMENT WILL APPEAR ONLY ONCE

# CANADIAN TRUST

# (For 3 months, £4 for every $1,000.)

The profit in three months is estimated at £104 for every £4 invested, which should mean that one will have returned £104 plus £4, equal to £108.

Whether or not you have ever dealt in American Railroads, we invite you to send us at once the application form attached below and earn from your own experience whether our advices and methods are valuable for the general public.

Nothing else is expected of you than to recommend us to the circle of your acquaintances after the success has been completely proven, that means not before you have received from us £108 on your £4 invested.

## The Subscription will be closed Saturday, the 22nd of May.

## AMOUNT REQUIRED £4

## ESTIMATED PROFIT £104

**GERSON HANSON & CO., LIMITED, Norfolk House, Laurence Pountney Hill, Cannon Street, London, E.C.**

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: ESPONJAS, LONDON.

## Our Campaign for 1909.

### INTERVIEW WITH A WELL-KNOWN AMERICAN MAGNATE.

We dare say we are experts in Yankees (American Railways), and that we know everything about them that can be known. We dare say that we understand the entire Wall Street System better than any one of our competitors and very often have an occasion to feel that in three months we could bring you further than you can get yourself in 20 years.

Nowadays almost everybody has a friend who is a dealer or broker in Stocks and Shares, so we cannot expect that you should give us the preference, unless we actually prove to you that we are often sooner and better informed than other firms. In the end the public will transact their business where the best profits are to be gained and the best conditions to be obtained.

We shall prove to you that our advices are valuable.

A Trust in Canadians: It is our intention to possess in 1909 the largest amount of clients that ever a stockbroker or dealer could boast of, and we will realise this fact through our Canadian Trust. We will force you to a certain degree at least once to give us an order and to form your own opinion about our method of dealing and the capacities of our correspondent.

### J. PIERPONT MORGAN.

"Don't be a Bear on America," J. Pierpont Morgan said. "That man who is, goes broke."

Whether or not you have ever dealt in American Railroads, we proclaim this fact: send us at once the application form attached below and learn from your own experience whether our advices and methods are valuable.

### OUR PROPOSITION.

A Trust in Canadian Pacific (For every Thousand Dollars you must send £4—and the estimated profit is £104—in 3 months).

Condition 1st. All Canadian shares are opened at the London closing price of Saturday, the 22nd of May, which quotations are controlled by almost every English paper (Globe, Daily Telegraph, Financial News, Financial Times, etc., etc.). Suppose the closing price in London should be 186¼—186⅜, then is the buying price 186⅜, nett, which means naturally without you paying any further commission or other expenses. If you sell or buy according to tape prices and yet have to pay commission you are paying too much.

A Daily newspaper, from which you are able to ascertain these prices exactly is sent you free of charge with every order.

2nd. All transactions will be closed the same date at London closing price, i.e., three months after the Trust opens, i.e., Monday, 23rd August, 1909, and all profits, without any limit, will be returned with the four pounds of your investment.

3rd. If on Monday, the 23rd of August, 1909, there would have been no profit made, the transaction will be kept open for the next 3 months, i.e., Monday, 22nd of November, 1909, without any further margin. We hope it is now quite clear to you that the worst that can happen is that the closing quotation in London on the 22nd of November, 1909, is 2% or more under the quotation of 22nd of May, 1909, and then, and only then, would your loss be £4, and under no circumstances more than four pounds.

4th. Every buyer receives a stamped contract informing the purchaser that if necessary we keep the account open for 6 months, and that the entire responsibility of the buyer is limited to the £4 invested.

## OUR CORRESPONDENT PREDICTS.

Canadians within three months will be 235 per cent., that means those investing in Canadians should make a profit of £104 on every Thousand Dollars. Please keep in mind that the same correspondent after an interview with one of the best known American Financiers predicted rise of 60 per cent. in Unions, and those who have followed our advice will not have forgotten this.

## We are convinced that through our Canadian Trust we will enlist and retain you as one of our clients.

On Saturday, the 22nd of May, the Subscription will be closed. If you wish to become a participant in the trust please send by return post the attached application form, with the name and address and the amount of Four Pounds to the folliowng address:

**GERSON HANSON & CO., LIMITED, Norfolk House, Laurence Pountney Hill, Cannon Street, London, E.C.**

# CHAT ON 'CHANGE.

This book, compiled by a leading financial expert, will be sent gratis and post free to every one subscribing in the Canadian Trust.

It is a complete handbook and guide for the use of those who wish to study the various methods of Stock Exchange operations.

A careful perusal of these pages will enable the reader to thoroughly grasp the different methods in which to open an account.

Being written in plain and easy language, it can be readily understood by everybody.

### USE THIS FORM.

I buy thousand dollars Canadian Pacific Second Series on the conditions as mentioned in your advertisement, for which I enclose £4, with the understanding that my entire risk is limited to this amount.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

If you will invest to a larger amount, please make the form out accordingly. For instance: If you wish to make out the form for $5,000 you must remit £20. You can also REMIT BY POSTAL ORDER. MORE of these forms can be obtained by application to our Offices or by writing. J.B.

J. N. (Gloucester St., W.).—All the Alfriston horses *always* run straight—except when they occasionally take it into their heads to swerve.

L. F. P. (Tunbridge Wells).—We believe "convent scandals" are usually creatures of fervent Protestant imaginations. Of course, we agree that dissatisfied nuns must be allowed to go free, but that is no reason for endorsing hysterical hullabaloos.

"L.R.C.P." has been worried by Martin, Limited, who sent samples of "Tweenies," and then asked for payment. He says that, if our other correspondent is sued by Martin, he will be a witness in the case.

"STOAT'S NEST" disagrees with J. O. E. (Newport), who ran down our little story, "Too Old at 36." He writes: "I have an idea it was written by the same one as does Jim Crow, because under Jim's cynicism I discern better things that many do not see. The story made my wife cry, and I am not ashamed of feeling something like it. Perhaps J. O. E. thought it was going to turn out funny, and got disgusted when he found out it didn't. I hope to read more of his stories whether J. O. E. likes them or not."

H. H. (New Southgate) writes: "My sister asked me to chop some wood this morning, and in the same breath she said we have not got a bit in the house. Does this take the Biscuit? If so, will you please send me your half-a-crown and oblige." Unfortunately, we have spent that coin in giving lunch to Jim Crow.

C. A. C. (Highbury) is angry with our anti-Semite correspondent, M. C. B., and blames us for lending our columns to "the ventilation of ignorant views." Well, we hear both sides.

"TAURUS" sends a circular from George King (Coventry) offering cycles "at pounds below makers' prices," especially the "eminent make" of "Court Royals," which we confess we never heard of. King wants the prices to be treated in strict confidence, so he is evidently not anxious to trade on a large scale. He adds, with great truth, that "it is a well-known fact that thousands of cycle buyers are hoodwinked yearly by the delusive announcements issued by unscrupulous advertisers, who, by posing as philanthropists draw upon the credulous."

B. S., JUN. (Forest Gate) was amused by the attack of W. C. (Upton Park), and says neither threats nor abuse will interfere with his determination to do what he thinks fit. He adds: "I have endeavoured to be of some slight service to the community, and, should I have helped only one person, I am satisfied." He reminds W. C., that "abuse, such as he serves out, lowers him in the estimation of all who read his words." There's dignity for you!

"TRUE BLUE" (Liverpool) says that we shall like boy-scouts if we read their rules. But we like them less than ever when we read in those rules that "a scout smiles and *whistles* under all circumstances," and that "he saves every penny he can and puts it into the bank." We hate mean boys even more than little wretches who whistle.

R. H. (Harrow) sends a letter from a Cambridge undergraduate now trying to earn a living as a tutor in Germany. He says: "I am living, and that is about all. These German good folks are chuckling over the naval scare. They tell me here that the coal supply of the United Kingdom will be exhausted in 60 years." But no doubt we shall use radium then.

MRS. H. Y. S. (Kirkley).—Better luck next time.

H. E. (North Kensington) can't get his reward from the British Key and Property Registry.

R. D. (Limavady) says, "the British press is in the hands of Romanists." We are—when they read us.

AN anonymous person writes: "It may be that Herbert Vivian is a German agent." Donnerwetter!

H. E. R. (Blackpool) also experienced great difficulty in obtaining goods from Fisher and Co., although he ultimately got them. He made special enquiry about the firm and received the reply:—"They have been in business many years, but are very slow." They must buck up. We are glad to hear that in the case of previous complaint our correspondent has received the goods he paid for.

T. H. (Newport, Mon.).—We are sorry to hear that the M. A. Winter Co. has been breaking out again.

A. K. (Gravesend) says "Royal Commissions are a played-out fiasco. That on the National Life Boat Institution found no one at fault, nor could they see that the smug officials pocket some 75 per cent. of the funds, the remainder going to the poor devils who man the boats, leaving wives and children for perhaps 48 hours." He is also dissatisfied with the Police Commission.

J. B. (Bungay).—What a pity you missed our warnings about the Kew Seed Company (Sandycombe Road, Kew).

J. S. B. (Bow Lane).—We reciprocate your congratulations.

"UNDER THE BAN" says civilians have not a fair chance of promotion in the Postal Telegraph Service. They will have to imitate the French and get up a strike.

"REMRAF" (Aldershot) might apply to the Motor Cab Company (Brixton Road) for the price of lessons in motor driving.

(*We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.*)


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## RACING NOTES.

By W. LOTINGA.
("*Larry Lynx*" *of* THE PEOPLE, *and* "*Magpie*" *of* THE GLOBE.)

**Executives Don't Agree.**

The only advantage in a small entry for a race is that the remainder of the page on the card for that event is usually left blank for notes.

**A Lead.**

H. Tompkinson, the father of Don Carlos, the present head of the winning list in Buenos Ayres, was the *first* to import English horses into the Argentine 25 years ago.

**The Opposite So Far.**

There has never been, and I hope never again will be, such a year as 1908 was for bookmakers. Imagine the luck of any man who happened to *begin* to field that season—and "played it" up!

**A Paradox.**

In France owners do not need to declare when having two horses in one race, the odds being laid against the stable. For a place, however, each horse runs on its own merit, and is recognised in the *pari-mutuel* singly.

**Prophetic.**

Both North and South the earlier running very much governs what is likely to happen at Doncaster and Salisbury respectively, for many of the *same* horses are entered previously at York and Bath. I do believe, however, that FLAGSHIP, although not a good horse, has a big chance in Friday's Chesterfield Plate at Doncaster, for he can have a 7st. jockey on him, which he needs.

No one will wish, on Saturday, to miss Windsor, where—specially saved for it—the staying

BLACKSTONE

WILL WIN the Royal Three-Year-Old Handicap, and the price must be fair, as several will be fancied—especially Carrousel after his third in the Payne Stakes. I don't like to admit *how* long in advance these notes are, of necessity, indited, but I must even now deal with the Derby. It matters little, however, as I have only *one* opinion, and hope, that the greatest race of the year will fall to the grandest sportsman in the Kingdom, and that

MINORU

will be the means of creating yet another glorious, exhilarating scene at Epsom. My reasons for so doing are that with nothing very great among the three-year-olds, His Majesty's representative is just a little in front of the rest, and, moreover, he is a nice, sound, "corky" little horse, who will act on the hard ground—and on these downs. The luck in running will be everything, so may it ALL go one way—towards the bearer of the Royal colours, plus the good wishes and coin of thousands of little backers—and what sportsman is not patriotic? Patriotism, however, does not win races, but there is adequate ground for making it the basis of our hopes, and finance now. I utterly oppose Sir Martin and Bayardo, believing the greater certainty to be that LOUVIERS WILL BE PLACED.

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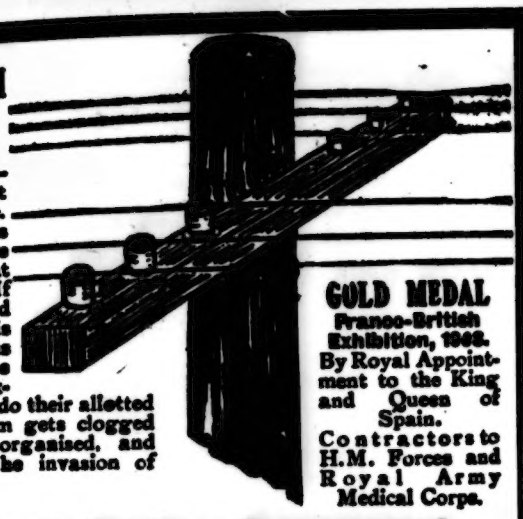

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The following claim has been received for the issue of March 20th:—
WILLIAM D. WILSON, 2, Dudley Street, Parkgate, near Rotherham. (No. 257106.)

The following claims have been received for the issue of April 3rd:—
H. W. COOKSON, 32, Balfour Road, Birkenhead. (No. 68113.)
MRS. M. JOSEPH, 130, Osbaldeston Road, Upper Clapton, N.E. (No. 87972.)

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of April 17th:—

**149; 7446; 8930; 9878; 15387; 19963; 21273; 25388; 26643; 31194; 34246; 34359; 35337; 55676; 56185; 61206; 63346; 65208; 65241; 71384; 72519; 73597; 74638; 75315; 76958; 87058; 87257; 90293; 93163; 96544; 97016; 112319; 112469; 145036; 149970; 162488; 165940; 180921; 191047; 192665; 212025; 216543; 224576; 226826; 235278; 237096; 272307; 279256; 299752; 305556.**

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED JUNE 26th (PUBLISHED JUNE 24th).

### Special Notice.

**We find that the arrangements in connection with our New Ballot Scheme will take somewhat longer to complete than we anticipated, and, therefore, until further notice, the scheme will continue on the old lines, as explained above.**

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For meaning of this symbol see page iii. of cover.